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La Paz, 16 - 26 November 1964

COCA LEAF AND COCA BUSH PROVISIONS IN THE SINGLE CONVENTION

GE.64-12639

COCA LEAF AND COCA BUSH PROVISIONS IN THE SINGLE CONVENTION

Existing Treaty System

1. Hitherto, under the existing system of international control the only restriction affecting coca leaves is of an internal character[1/], the Parties to the 1925 Convention having undertaken to limit the number of towns and ports through which the export of coca leaves was to be permitted.

Single Convention

2. The Single Convention is therefore a new departure in that it seeks to bring under general control for the first time not only coca leaves but also the parent plant, the coca bush. This is in line with the new provisions which it contains for the control of the opium poppy and the cannabis plant.

Coca leaf

3. The coca leaf itself is mentioned in two separate contexts in the Convention

(a) It is one of the items in Schedule I.
This means that the coca leaf is a "drug" within the definition of the Convention[2/], and that it is subject to the strictest of the mandatory regimes of control provided by the Convention. In particular, the following articles will apply to it:
4(c), 19, 20, 21, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 37.

(b) It is named in article 26 and 27, whose respective titles are "The coca bush and coca leaves" and "Additional provisions relating to coca leaves".

The coca bush

4. In the case of the coca bush, the control system laid down is similar to that provided for the opium poppy. This is because international narcotics control started with the control of opium in the Far-East and it is there, and in particular in India, that the widest and most successful experience has been obtained in the control of the opium poppy. Thus it was logical that in seeking for precedents to follow, the drafters of the Single Convention should suggest a similar system of control for the coca bush.

1/ See article 3 of the International Opium Convention of 19 February 1925.

2/ See article 1(j) of the Single Convention.

lication of the special "coca leaf" article 26 of the Single Convention

The new control system stems principally from article 26, paragraph 1, which it will noted provides that with one exception[3] the opium provisions of article 23 should be lied to the coca bush cultivation.

The general purpose of article 23, which relates to national opium agencies, and ce of article 26, is that the contracting Parties should set up and maintain government ncies or monopolies to carry out the following obligations:

(i) to designate areas where cultivation is permitted to licensed cultivators; to authorize such cultivators to engage in cultivation, care being taken that each licence shall specify exactly the extent of the land on which cultivation is permitted;

(ii) to have the exclusive right, in respect of coca leaves, of importing, exporting, wholesale trading and maintaining stocks other than the stocks held by manufacturers of cocaine, ecgonine, medicinal coca leaf or coca leaf preparations. This general exclusive right need not be extended to medicinal coca leaf and coca leaf preparations. In connexion with stocks there is an additional limitation[4] that Parties to the Convention shall prevent accumulation by manufacturers of quantities of coca leaf in excess of those quantities required for the normal conduct of business, having regard to prevailing market conditions.

When the constitution of the government permits, these monopoly functions shall be scharged by a single government agency.

terpretation of the provisions of the Single Convention

This paper is primarily concerned with explaining the minimum mandatory requirements posed with respect to the coca bush. However, in the interpretation of the requirement e consultative group, and particularly the representatives of the producing countries, n be of great assistance in suggesting the most practical manner of applying the pro- sions of articles 26 and 27, it being understood that wherever possible, governments

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This exception is that in the case of coca bush, the agency is only required to take physical possession of the crops as soon as possible after the end of the harvest, i.e., not necessarily within four months. "Physical possession" means that the government monopoly on its agents should have complete and direct control of the leaves preferably by placing them in its own warehouse.

See article 29, para. 3, of the Single Convention.

will undertake to set up a control system even more strict than that provided by the Convention[5/].

9. With this in mind, the consultative group may wish to examine the following suggestions[6/].

"It would be advisable to establish a single licence form for the entire territory of a coca leaf producing State. The licence should provide at least the following information (to be supplemented as necessary):

(a) Particulars of the identity of the licensee;

(b) Exact description of the land to be cultivated (taken from the cadastral survey or indicated by any other means permitting identification);

(c) Duration of validity;

(d) Maximum area to be planted;

(e) Area actually planted;

(f) Estimate of the crop;

(g) Specific conditions regarding delivery of the coca leaf crop (including, in particular the final date); and

(h) Amount of coca leaf harvested[7/]

The licence should also mention the obligations of the cultivator under the domestic law, and in signing or otherwise accepting the licence he should certify that he has taken due note of those obligations.

The national regulations should include provisions specifying that no licence shall be granted to any person who has been convicted within the preceding five years of an offence against the regulations governing narcotic drugs in general and the coca leaf in particular. Similarly, the Agency should make sure that cultivators do not employ such persons.

A licence should be issued only to an individual - even if he represents a corporate body - and that individual should be liable in criminal law for observance of the regulations governing the production of coca leaves. In the

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5/ In this connexion, article 39 of the Convention provides inter alia "Notwithstanding anything contained in this Convention, a Party shall not be, or be deemed to be, precluded from adopting measures of control more strict or severe than those provided by this Convention ...".

6/ These are taken mutatis mutandis from pages 9-10 of E/NT/9 "The Model Guide for the Application of the 1953 Protocol". They attempt to interpret article 3 of that treaty which forms the basis of article 23 of the Single Convention.

7/ This information would only be provided after planting and harvesting.

exceptional event of a licence being issued to a corporate body, the name of the responsible individual should be specified.

Licences, being personal, should not be transferable. They should be revokable at the discretion of the authorities."

Destruction of coca bushes

10. The Single Convention contains in its article 22 a general provision prohibiting the cultivation of the mother plants of the three natural drugs, i.e. the opium poppy, coca bush and the cannabis plants, "whenever the prevailing conditions in the country or a territory of a Party render the prohibition of the cultivation of the opium poppy, the coca bush or the cannabis plant the most suitable measure, in its opinion, for protecting the public health and welfare and preventing the diversion of drugs into the illicit traffic".

11. More specifically, its article 26(2) provides that "the Parties shall so far as possible enforce the uprooting of all coca bushes which grow wild. They shall destroy the coca bushes if illegally cultivated".

Diminishing use of the Coca Leaf

12. It should be noted that of the three uses of the coca leaf, (a) for chewing, (b) for the manufacture of cocaine and (c) for the manufacture of flavouring agents, only the last is likely to remain legitimate and therefore permanent. With the current trend away from the use of cocaine as an analgesic and towards the control of the chewing of coca leaf, which under the Convention is permitted for a period up to 25 years[8/], it is normally expected that the areas under cultivation will decrease regularly.

Flavouring agents (Article 27)

13. The third use of the coca leaf referred to in paragraph 12 above, i.e. the preparatio of flavouring agents, is the subject of a special article in the Single Convention (27). Under this article, the flavouring agent shall not contain any alkaloids, and Parties shall furnish separate estimates and statistical information in respect of coca leaves used in the preparation of such agents, except when the coca leaves are used both for the extraction of alkaloids and the preparation of the flavouring agents. In that case it has to be so explained in the estimates and the statistical information.

8/ Art. 49, para 2(e) of the Single Convention Coca leaf chewing must be abolished within 25 years from the coming into force of this Convention. This will be on the 30th day following the day on which the 40th instrument of ratification or accession is deposited. This non-medical use of the coca leaf may only be permitted by parties which have made a transitional reservation (see Article 49 1 (c)) to that effect at the time of signature, ratification or accession.

Wide application of the Single Convention

14. As will be appreciated, with the ever-wider support given to the Single Convention, whose provisions seek to include for the first time in one treaty the maximum number of international narcotics measures acceptable to a majority of States as represented at the Plenipotentiary Conference in 1961, this treaty will provide the new regime to be used throughout the world. It is therefore important that support for it be forthcoming from as many quarters as possible, and particularly in Latin American regions where so far only the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Jamaica, Panama and Peru, have become parties to the Single Convention.

15. As more governments accept the provisions of the Single Convention, not only will the Convention set a time limit of 25 years at most during which the habit of coca leaf chewing must be eradicated, but also provide a common system, i.e. by government monopolies or agencies, to deal with this problem along the line which has been successfully operated over many years in India with respect to the opium poppy. If this system is applied effectively by the governments concerned, especially the provisions relating to the destruction of the illicit cultivation, not only will it be possible for individuals or national administrations to deal with the social and economic problems arising from a gradual diminution in cultivation and the resettling of the cultivators; the illicit traffic of coca leaves and cocaine will be severely hit, which can but benefit all the countries concerned.

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ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN COCAINE

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ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN COCAINE

Introduction

According to the definition given by the International Criminal Police Organization - ERPOL, international illicit drug traffic means "any unauthorized movement of narcotics olving an actual or presumed crossing of a frontier".

In this international illicit traffic, it is the traffic in opiates which has the t devastating effects on account both of its volume and of the type of addiction which encourages. Nevertheless, illicit international traffic in cocaine, even if it may e seemed to give less cause for concern, has for some years been clearly on the rease. Cocaine is now being seized nearly all over the world, in Europe as in America, sometimes at considerable distances from the places of production, but the principal tim of traffic in cocaine is still North America and particularly the United States, re the prices asked for this drug on the illicit market are very high.

Many clandestine laboratories in which cocaine is manufactured have been established the coca leaf producing regions of Bolivia and Peru, and also in neighbouring ntries. The cocaine produced by these laboratories and diverted to the illicit ffic represents a serious threat to the health of the inhabitants of many countries ch are victims of that traffic. Faced with this threat, neither Governments nor ernational organizations can remain indifferent.

Many efforts have been made both by Governments and by the international community ut an end to this traffic and it will suffice to point out that they have been ysed for this meeting in the document entitled "International action on problems of -leaf chewing, the limitation of coca-leaf production to quantities necessary for cal and other purposes and the suppression of illicit traffic in cocaine".[1/] owing on this analysis, the main recommendations and resolutions adopted on this ect are also reproduced.

All these international efforts show the extent to which the problem raised by cit traffic in cocaine is exercising the minds of Governments and the international es responsible for watching over the health of mankind and protecting it against se of this drug. Our study will be concerned with ascertaining the present volume his traffic and which countries are the main victims of it, and will be based on the owing four sources of information:

1/ Document No. GEN/NAR/64/Conf.2/3

I. Annual reports submitted by Governments pursuant to article 21 of the 1931 Convention;

II. Reports of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sessions;

III. Reports of the Permanent Central Opium Board to the Economic and Social Council;

IV. Information supplied by Governments to ICPO/INTERPOL.

B. The present position with respect to the traffic

I. Illicit traffic in cocaine according to the information supplied by Governments

5. The position with respect to illicit traffic in cocaine in South America is not very well known. That is due mainly to the fact that certain Governments do not send their annual reports regularly to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In 1963, at its eighteenth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs deeply regretted the dearth of reports on illicit traffic transmitted by the countries of Latin America. It goes without saying that this document will only be concerned with those countries which are directly affected by the illicit traffic in cocaine.

Argentina

6. Argentina informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations that in 1961 3 kg 969 g of cocaine hydrochloride and cocaine sulphate had been seized on its territory. It appears that the individual implicated in this case had a clandestine laboratory. According to the Argentine police, the international railway lines and probably also ports and airports are used for the cocaine traffic. There have been thefts of cocaine from some pharmacies.

7. The previous year 56 individuals had been implicated in cocaine traffic cases, and the police had seized 3.29 kg of cocaine hydrochloride with a 70 per cent pure cocaine content.

8. There was no noteworthy change in the position with respect to this traffic in 1962. There were more thefts from pharmacies in order to obtain this drug. These thefts occur mainly when the pharmacies are closed or it is their turn to maintain a night service. The Federal Police has come to the conclusion that the illicit traffic always uses the same route, i.e. via Santa Cruz, Yacuiba, Salta, Tucman, Cordoba and Buenos Aires, by train and lorry and also by using port and airport facilities. It appears that Argentina is a victim country and not a transit country as far as narcotic drugs

are concerned. In 1962 38 individuals were arrested and 74 envelopes containing cocaine hydrochloride were seized. It should be noted that in one case alone the police seized as much as 470 g of cocaine hydrochloride mixed with procaine.

9. It was not possible to find out where the small bags and packets came from, as they bore no mark by which they could be identified.

10. It was also impossible to ascertain cocaine prices on the illicit market. However, the seized cocaine hydrochloride was adulterated. The coca leaves brought into the country appear to be intended simply for chewing and not for the extraction of narcotic substances. The habit of chewing coca leaves is confined to Salta and Jujuy Provinces.

11. Lastly, the annual report for 1963 points out that, as in the past, the illicit traffic was mainly in cocaine and coca leaves and that these two substances were the cause of the great majority of the proceedings instituted by the various police services. The total quantity of cocaine seized during that year amounted to 2,608 kg. One case notified by the police of Salta Province, in which 848 grammes of cocaine hydrochloride were seized, should be mentioned. The starting point in this case was in the locality of Yacuiba (Bolivia), near to Pocitos (Argentina). The cocaine hydrochloride was in small polyethylene bags hidden in a small ladies' suitcase and taken by car from Yacuiba (Bolivia) to Tartagal (Argentina) and from there to Salta by railway. The offenders were brought before the Federal Judge at Salta.

Bolivia

12. According to the annual report submitted by Bolivia for the years 1960 and 1961 clandestine laboratories manufacture cocaine from coca leaves produced in this country. All the illicitly produced cocaine is intended for export.

13. According to the report prepared by the Central Bank of Bolivia, total seizures of substances containing cocaine amounted to approximately 140 kg.

14. At its meeting at Lima (26 November to 7 December 1962), the Consultative Group on Coca Leaf Problems repeated the statements made at Rio de Janeiro in 1960 and 1961, to the effect that the illicit traffic in cocaine was caused by the over-production of coca leaves in Bolivia and Peru. At the Lima Conference in 1962 the representative of Bolivia had stated that the estimated annual production of coca leaves was 12,000 tons, half of the production being used to manufacture cocaine intended for illicit export.

15. On the other hand, the annual report submitted by Bolivia for the year 1963 states that the total production of coca leaves amounted to about 4,200 tons and that as a result of agrarian and educational reforms a comparatively large decrease in coca leaf chewing has been noted.

As for the illicit traffic in cocaine, it appears that, as a result of the strong measures taken by Bolivia, clandestine manufacture of cocaine is decreasing sharply.

Brazil

16. According to the Brazilian Government, all the cocaine moving in the illicit traffic comes from clandestine laboratories in Bolivia and Peru; the position can be summed up as follows:

Cocaine seizures	
1960	1 kg 10 g
1961	1 kg 811 g
1962	3 kg 401 g

Places where seizures occurred in 1962:

São Paulo	1 kg 951 g
Guanabara State	500 g
Bahia State	500 g
Parana State	450 g
Total	3 kg 401 g

17. According to the Brazilian Government, the traffickers use two main routes from the Pacific coast and the Atlantic coast. The cocaine which is brought into Europe finds its way in through Italy, while the cocaine intended for the United States goes via the West Indies.

18. The most important of these two routes starts in Peru, follows the Amazon from Sao Paulo de Olivenca to Manáus in Brazil and continues to Paramaribo, which is a free port.

19. The second route goes through La Paz, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Sucre and Roboré in Bolivia, Puerto Piñasco and Asuncion in Paraguay, Cuiaba, Fazenda Mandioré, Fazenda Pantanal, Coxim, Corumbá, Esplanada, Aquidavana, Ponta Poro, Campo Grande, Itú, Caçapava, Sao Paulo, São Vicente, Santos and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil or through Misiones in Argentina, whence it enters Brazil by Santa Maria and the frontier zone of Rio Grande do Sul.

20. Recently the Amazon section of the Brazilian Federal Police, while carrying out investigations between the Lower Amazon and the Tocantins, seized two yachts the "Ciudade de Alemquer" and the "Santos" as well as two boats "Zé Ruiz" and "10 de Janeiro". These craft were engaged in illicit trading of every description and had neither a licence nor a permit to ply between the Tocantins and the Port of Paramaribo.

21. According to the annual report submitted by the Government of Brazil for 1963, the problem of the illicit traffic in cocaine has reached serious proportions. 11 kg 566 g were seized against 3 kg 401 g in 1962.

22. The cocaine traffic problem is daily growing worse. On 1 February 1964, at Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian Government was informed that according to a statement by the head of the Bolivian Police Department 500 kg of cocaine had been smuggled into the Brazilian town of Corumba for onward dispatch to Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and European countries (Italy and France).

23. In its report, the Brazilian Government expresses genuine alarm. It appears that it will not be long before the Brazilian authorities find that they cannot cope with the problem of cocaine addiction and the grave medical and social problems which it raises.

Chile

24. According to the Government of Chile there is some illicit traffic in coca leaves and cocaine in that country.

25. Chile is used as a transit territory by the international illicit traffic which originates in Bolivia. According to the information in the Government's possession only 20 per cent of the illicitly imported cocaine is consumed in the country itself, the remainder supplying the international traffic.

26. In 1960 440 g of pure cocaine hydrochloride were seized by the police. The following year seizures of cocaine and coca leaf were much larger. The police seized 2 kg 369 g of cocaine. In 1963, a clandestine laboratory located in the vicinity of the capital and manufacturing cocaine was discovered and 1 kg 350 g of cocaine hydrochloride were seized.

27. It is in the towns of Santiago and Arica that seizures of cocaine occur most frequently.

28. As the frontier along the Andean Cordillera is extremely long and difficult to keep under surveillance, the Chilean Government thinks that much larger quantities of cocaine than those seized may have entered the country. It appears impossible to keep an effective watch on all the frontiers to prevent the illicit entry of cocaine from other countries.

Colombia

29. The last annual report supplied by Colombia relates to the year 1960. It states that the authority responsible for illicit traffic control is the "Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad" and that coca leaf chewing is confined to the departments of Cauca, Huila and Santander.

30. The estimated production of coca leaves in Colombia is 105 tons. Export of coca leaves and cocaine production are prohibited by law. The report makes no reference to illicit traffic in cocaine.

United States of America

31. According to the annual reports submitted by the Government of the United States, 4 kg 62 g of cocaine were seized in 1961, against 2 kg 680 g in 1960. The cocaine appears to come mainly from Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Panama.

32. In 1962 10 kg 64 g of cocaine were seized. The drug apparently came from Cuba, Peru and Bolivia. The quantity seized in 1963 was 8 kg 386 g and it appears to have originated in Peru.

33. According to a document published by the United States Narcotics Bureau in November 1962, the coca leaf and cocaine problem is caused by over-production of coca leaf. If it is desired to find a solution to the problem of illicit traffic in cocaine, not only should the production of the raw material be controlled but repressive measures should be taken to prevent the illicit traffic in coca leaves and cocaine.

34. Under United States legislation cocaine traffickers are liable to imprisonment for a minimum term of five years or for life.

35. According to the Narcotics Bureau, the illicit traffic in cocaine increased during the period 1945 - 1949. At that time the Governments of the United States and Peru were collaborating closely. As a result of this collaboration several arrests were made in the two countries, and the Ballarezo Organization (in Peru) which supplied the brains behind this traffic was rendered ineffectual. Illicit traffic was reduced but in 1955 cocaine reappeared on the illicit markets at New York and Miami (Florida). The position continued to grow worse until 1959. Today there is illicit traffic in cocaine at New York, Miami, Chicago, Detroit and other important centres.

Ecuador

36. The annual reports submitted by the Government of Ecuador prove beyond doubt the existence of illicit traffic in cocaine in the country; they also show the need for international co-operation and expert assistance in the struggle against that traffic. The last report submitted by Ecuador is for the year 1963. It mentions numerous seizures of cocaine and states that the country could become a centre of illicit traffic in narcotics.

France

37. France is chiefly a transit country for opiates, owing to its geographical situation between the Middle East, which is an opium-producing area, and America, where there is an enormous outlet for these drugs.

38. However, there also exist in France organizations of traffickers interested in all narcotic drugs, a fact which explains the frequency of cocaine seizures in that country. Thus in 1961, 253 g of cocaine hydrochloride were seized, as against 10 g in 1960.

39. The annual report submitted by France for the year 1962 stresses the importance of close liaison between the national central authorities of the various countries, which should communicate information to each other as quickly as possible. It was, however, in 1963 that the largest seizure of cocaine - a quantity of 1 kg - was made. It has not so far been possible to obtain from the individuals involved in this case any information on the origin and destination of this drug.

40. According to the annual report submitted by France for the years before 1962, the traffickers' organizations are no longer composed exclusively of gangsters, but now include persons who, because of their social position and their personal record, are beyond suspicion.

Italy

41. Under the Italian legislation on narcotic drugs, and in particular Act No. 1041 of 22 October 1954, efforts to combat illicit traffic are carried out with the utmost zeal. The activities of the Italian police have led to the following seizures of cocaine, in connexion with which numerous arrests have been made, chiefly in Rome and Milan:

1960:	857 g of cocaine or cocaine salts
1961:	1 kg 258 g of cocaine or cocaine salts
1962:	151 g of cocaine or cocaine salts.

42. In Italy, a strict control is exercised over the production of and trade in narcotic drugs. There is no illicit traffic supplied from illicit production within the country. Only very small quantities of narcotics occasionally slip through the control exercised over the licit traffic or are stolen; almost the whole of the illicit traffic is supplied from illicit imports or transit.

43. In 1963, 966 g of cocaine were seized, 957 g of which at Venice. Seven persons were arrested and will be tried shortly.

Mexico

44. The illicit traffic is concentrated along the frontier between Mexico and the United States of America. The country is used as a transit territory. The frontier authorities have increased their vigilance and arrangements for the exchange of information have been entered into with the Government of the United States. Coca leaf is not produced in Mexico, but in 1960, a clandestine laboratory was discovered where 4 kg of cocaine were seized. In a number of other cases, a total of 4 kg 649 g of cocaine was seized. The annual report of the Government of Mexico for 1962 mentions the arrest of Maria Mercedes Cruz at the central airport of Mexico City; she was in possession of 3 kg 50 g of cocaine hydrochloride.

45. The Narcotics Division of Peru (Division de Narcóticos) investigated the case and established that the drugs seized came from Arica (Chile). Several members of the band were arrested. Lastly, during the year 1963, 1 kg 135 g of cocaine was seized.

Peru

46. The Peruvian Government admits the existence of the clandestine production of cocaine intended for illicit export and partly also for local consumption.

47. The police campaign against the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs has resulted in the seizure of 915 kg 50 g of cocaine paste in 1958 and 203 kg 66 g of the same substance in 1959; according to the annual report submitted by Peru for the year 1963, however, only 227 g of cocaine hydrochloride and 309 g of cocaine paste were seized. A considerable quantity of laboratory equipment and chemical substances necessary for the manufacture of cocaine were also confiscated.

48. According to the Coca Leaf Monopoly of Peru, the coca leaf harvest for 1963 amounted to about 8,700,000 kg. As is well known, Peru is one of the two largest producers of coca leaf and enormous quantities of this plant are used in the country for chewing.

9. Lastly, it should be recalled that a representative of Peru informed the ommission on Narcotic Drugs at its eighteenth session that his country would spare o effort to submit full annual reports in the future.

I. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the illicit traffic in cocaine

0. At its sixteenth session (24 April - 10 May 1961), the Commission took note of he following cocaine seizures made in 1960 in these countries: Argentina (2 kg); razil (1 kg); Chile (440 g); Mexico (6 kg 649 g); United States of America (2 kg 680 g); enezuela reported a case of attempted illicit importation. In the Near and Middle ast, seizures were smaller. Australia reported a seizure of 25 g. At the same ession, the observer for Brazil stressed the gravity of the illicit traffic in ocaine for his country, which was both a target of the traffic in cocaine smuggled n from the bordering countries and was at the same time a transit area for other rts of America and Europe. There were indications that some clandestine laboratories n neighbouring countries had stopped operating as a result of the increased o-operation between the Governments of the area.

1. At the same session, the observer for Argentina expressed his Government's ppreciation of the first Inter-American Conference on the illicit traffic held in io de Janeiro in 1960 with the participation of ICPO/INTERPOL. Measures would be aken to implement the resolutions adopted at that conference.

2. At its seventeenth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs took note of the ollowing cocaine seizures made in North America and South America: Argentina 3 kg 969 g); Brazil (1 kg 811 g); Chile (2 kg 369 g); Mexico (1 g 2mg); United tates (4 kg 52 g); Bolivia (114 g) and Uruguay (2 g).

3. Having regard to the fact that cocaine was seized in every continent and that he sources of the traffic were in South America, the Commission expressed its regret t the absence of reports from a number of countries in that region.

4. The representative of the United States of America drew the Commission's ttention to a report which had been made by a parliamentary Committee in Bolivia n the serious situation caused by the traffic in cocaine in that country.

5. It was obvious that the traffic in cocaine, which had been growing during the ast three years would lead to an increase in crime as well as addiction. The

representative of the United States expressed the hope that the meeting of the Inter-American Consultative Group on Narcotic Control in 1961 would help in the institution of control measures within the region.

56. At the same session, the representative of Brazil stated that the National Commission for the Control of Narcotic Drugs in his country was concerned at the recrudescence of the traffic in cocaine and intended to take every possible measure to deal with the problem. The observer for Argentina stated that, in addition to the seizures made in his country, an illicit laboratory had been destroyed.

57. At its eighteenth session, the Commission examined an important case of illicit traffic discovered in Europe and involving the notorious international trafficker Samil Khoury, whose activities affecting four countries dated back to 1955, when the arrest of Khoury had been reported at the Commission's tenth session by the observer for Lebanon. The 1962 case, in which the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland, assisted by ICPO, had played active parts, had resulted in the seizure in Switzerland of 2 kg 500 g of cocaine; Khoury was arrested in the Federal Republic of Germany after having been charged with traffic in narcotics. In Switzerland, fourteen persons had been involved in the case.

58. With reference to the American continent, the Commission noted that co-operation between national enforcement authorities in the various countries was playing an important part in bringing about seizures of narcotics and the arrest of traffickers. It noted that 4 kg of cocaine had been seized in 1962 in Chile and Peru. A clandestine laboratory manufacturing cocaine in Bolivia appeared to have been the source of this traffic.

59. The representative of the United States of America expressed his Government's satisfaction at the efforts being made in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico and Peru to eradicate the illicit traffic.

60. At the same time, he drew the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the fact that the Consultative Group on Coca Leaf Problems which had met at Lima (Peru) from 26 November to 7 December 1962, had reiterated its conclusion that the illicit traffic in cocainewas caused by the over-production of coca leaves in Bolivia and Peru.

61. At the above-mentioned 1962 meeting, the representative of Bolivia had spoken of 12,000 tons as the estimated annual production of coca leaf in his country.

One-half of that quantity went into illicit traffic. The representative of the United States, on the basis of that statement, said that the quantity of cocaine that could be produced from the 6,000 tons in question would amount to 45,000 kg as compared with the 1,300 kg which represented the average annual requirements for medical purposes throughout the world.

62. Lastly, at its nineteenth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs expressed the view that the situation had worsened in recent years and that the quantities seized in 1962 and 1963, specially in Brazil, Mexico and the United States of America, were significant in that respect. Clandestine manufacture was undoubtedly able to thrive on the abundant supplies of coca leaf produced in Bolivia and Peru.

63. The representative of the United States mentioned that his Government was seriously concerned about the cocaine traffic which entered the United States.

III. The Permanent Central Opium Board (PCOB) and the illicit traffic in cocaine

64. The PCOB, in its report to the Economic and Social Council on its work in 1962, gives figures for the quantities of cocaine confiscated throughout the world on account of illicit import or export.

65. The figures in question are as follows:

1960	4 kg
1961	10 kg

66. The breakdown of the 1961 figures is as follows: Argentina - 3 kg; Brazil 1 kg; Chile - 2 kg; United States - 4 kg. All the quantities confiscated in 1962 on account of illicit import or export (10 kg in all) were seized in the United States of America.

67. The PCOB report on its work in 1963 shows that the illicit traffic in cocaine has a tendency to increase. It is true that in 1962, the danger represented for humanity by opiates (morphine and heroin) is more serious, but the problem of cocaine is becoming truly alarming.

68. Since the manufacture of cocaine in Bolivia appeared to be one of the major sources of the quantities of cocaine seized on account of illicit traffic, the PCOB felt in 1963 that the time had come when closer study should be given to the situation in that country. At the Board's invitation, the Minister of Public Health of Bolivia and the Director General of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia attended the eighty-third session of the Board. The Minister of Public Health of Bolivia stated that his Government intended to bring about the gradual abolition of coca leaf production and of chewing and to take the necessary administrative measures to check the illicit traffic, particularly in cocain

IV The illicit traffic in cocaine according to the report submitted by the International Criminal Police Organization INTERPOL to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on its work in combatting the illicit drug traffic in 1963.

COCAINE

69. (1960: 4 countries or territories, 6 seizures = 3,409 g - 18 arrests)
(1961: 14 countries or territories, 24 seizures = 12,326.3g - 76 arrests)
(1962: 6 countries or territories, 20 seizures = 2,867 g + 12 ampoules + 1,019,000 g of coca leaves - 67 arrests)
(1963: 8 countries or territories, 20 seizures = 10,677 g + 880,000 g of coca leaves - 70 arrests).

70. PARTICULARS OF SEIZURES REPORTED

(Place and date of seizure, quantity, means of transport, where and how hidden, trade and nationality of traffickers, origin).

1. AFRICA

1962: Nil
1963: Nil

2. AMERICA

1962: 3 countries - 2,700 g
1963: 6 countries - 8,710 g 880,000 g of coca leaves

ARGENTINA:

71. (1962: 9 seizures = 1,718 g + 12 ampoules + 731,000 g of coca leaves.
(1963: 6 seizures = 1,661 g)

Buenos Aires (4 seizures = 675 g)

(a) ..... 22 June 1963, 129 g
in a hotel bedroom, in a plastic bag
1 Bolivian woman arrested
Origin (provenance: presumed, BOLIVIA
(production: presumed, BOLIVIA

(b) ..... 26 June 1963, 12 g
on public highway, under motor-car chassis
1 Argentinian arrested
Origin (provenance: known, BOLIVIA
(production: presumed, BOLIVIA

(c) ..... 27 June 1963, 450 g
in a private house, in a chimney
4 Argentinians arrested
Origin (provenance: known, BOLIVIA
(production: presumed, BOLIVIA

(d) ..... 13 August 1963, 84 g
in a hotel bedroom, in a bedside table
and on the trafficker
1 Argentinian and 1 Syrian arrested

Olivos, Province of Buenos Aires ..... 8 June 1963, 86 g
in a night-club; in envelopes and in a small bottle
8 Argentinians and 3 persons of unspecified nationality implicated
Origin (provenance: known, BOLIVIA
(production: presumed, BOLIVIA

Province of Salta ..... 7 June 1963, 900 g
in a dwelling house,
3 Argentinians and one Bolivian arrested
Origin (provenance: known, BOLIVIA
(production: presumed, BOLIVIA

BOLIVIA:

72. (1962: Nil/1963: 3 seizures = 1,445 g)

Cochabamba ..... 29 October 1962, 255 g
in a dwelling-house: clandestine laboratory
5 persons of unspecified nationality implicated
Origin (provenance: known, BOLIVIA
(production: known, BOLIVIA

La Paz ..... 10 August 1962, 890 g
at traffickers' home
3 persons of unspecified nationality arrested

Puerto Suarez ..... 10 September 1962, 300 g
during a search
1 German, 2 Bolivians and 1 Greek arrested

CHILE:

73. (1962: 2 seizures = 63 g 288,000 g of coca leaves/1963: 2 seizures = 17 g + 800,000 g of coca leaves)

Antofagasta ..... 3 September 1962, 17 g
in a dwelling-house,
1 Chilean and 1 person of unspecified nationality arrested
Origin-provenance: known, CHILE

Arica ..... 18 September 1962, 800,000 g of coca leaves in a hut
2 Chileans arrested
Origin (provenance: known, BOLIVIA
(production: known, BOLIVIA

COLOMBIA:

74. (1962: Nil/1963: 2 seizures = 220 g)

Bogotá (2 seizures = 220 g)

(a) ..... 3 August 1962, 20 g
during a search,
5 persons of unspecified nationality arrested
Origin (provenance: known, COLOMBIA
(production: known (legal), SWITZERLAND

(b) ..... 8 September 1963, 200 g
in a dwelling-house
2 Colombians arrested
Origin (provenance: known, COLOMBIA
(production: known (legal), NETHERLANDS and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MEXICO:

75. (1962: Nil/1963: 2 seizures = 5,181 g)

Mexico City (2 seizures = 5,181 g)

(a) ..... 6 January 1963, 4,090 g
in airport precincts, in trafficker's suitcases
2 Mexican women implicated
Origin-provenance: known, PERU

(b) ..... 14 September 1963, 1,131 g
in a hotel bedroom: in a false-bottomed suitcase
1 Ecuadorian and 1 Panamanian arrested
Origin (provenance: presumed, ECUADOR
(production: presumed, ECUADOR

PERU:

76. (1962: 1 seizure = 919 g/1963: 1 seizure = 186 g + 80,000 g of coca leaves)

Lima ..... 15 and 16 August 1962, 186 g 80,000 g of coca leaves in two clandestine laboratories
1 Bolivian woman, 8 Peruvians and 2 persons of unspecified nationality implicated
Origin (provenance of the raw material: known, PERU
(production: known, PERU

3. EUROPE

1962: 2 countries - 147 g
1963: 2 countries - 1,967 g

FRANCE:

(1962: Nil/1963: 2 seizures = 1,002 g)

Paris (2 seizures = 1,002 g)

(a) ..... 18 April 1963, 2 g
in a hotel bedroom
1 Frenchman arrested

(b) ..... 18 June 1963, 1,000 g
at trafficker's home, in a refrigerator
1 Frenchman arrested

ITALY:

(1962: 6 seizures = 127 g/1963: 2 seizures = 965 g)

Mestre ..... 23 October 1963, 957 g
at trafficker's home,
2 Italians arrested
Origin-provenance: known, BOLIVIA

Milan ..... 20 and 22 April 1963, 8 g
in a dwelling-house and on the traffickers
5 Italians arrested

4. NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

1962: nil
1963: nil

5. FAR EAST

1962: 1 country = 20 g
1963: nil

6. OCEANIA

1962: nil
1963: nil

79. ORIGIN OF SEIZURES

ORIGIN - PROVENANCE	Geographical area, country or territory	Number of cases	QUANTITY (g)		Percentage	
KNOWN	BOLIVIA	7	2,660 + 800,000 g of coca leaves	7,133 g + 880,000 g of coca leaves	24.91	66.81
	CHILE	1	17		0.16	
	COLOMBIA	2	220		2.06	
	PERU	3	4,236 + 80,000 g of leaves		39.68	
PRESUMED	BOLIVIA	1	129	1,260	1.21	11.80
	ECUADOR	1	1,131		10.59	
UNKNOWN		6		2,284		21.39
TOTALS		21		10,677 + 880,000g of coca leaves		100.00

ORIGIN- PRODUCTION	Geographical area, country or territory	Number of cases	QUANTITY (g)		Percentage	
KNOWN	BOLIVIA	2	255 + 800,000 g of coca leaves	586 + 880,000 g of coca leaves	2.39	5.49
	U.S.A.*	1	25		0.23	
	PERU	2	186 + 80,000 g of coca leaves			
	SWITZERLAND	1	20		0.19	
	NETHERLANDS*	1	100		0.94	
PRESUMED	BOLIVIA	5	1,577	2,708	14.17	25.36
	ECUADOR	1	1,131		10.59	
UNKNOWN		9		7,383		69.15
TOTALS		21		10,677 + 880,000 g of coca leaves		100.00

* NOTE: The USA and Netherlands origins concern a single seizure.

80. GENERAL REMARKS

- Little information was received on the international traffic in cocaine, which is mainly located in America.
- As regards the number of arrests, Argentina came first (32.8 per cent of the total), followed by Bolivia (17.1 per cent) and Peru (15.7 per cent).
- Of the traffickers arrested, 17 were Argentinians (24.2 per cent), 8 Peruvians (11.4 per cent) 7 Italians (10 per cent), 5 Bolivians (7.1 per cent). (One trafficker has already been mentioned in previous chapters).
- Note the seizures of 800,000 g and 80,000 g of coca leaves in Chile and Peru.
- Three clandestine laboratories were discovered: 1 at Cochabamba (Bolivia) and 2 at Lima (Peru).
- With reference to the two seizures made on 3 August 1963 and 8 September 1963 at Bogotá, Colombia, it should be noted that the bottles containing the drug bore labels of manufacturers in Switzerland (first case) and in the Netherlands or the United States (second case), being part of a licit export by one of these countries to the Ministry of Public Health at Bogotá.
- The following reported cases in 1963, whereas they had not done so in 1962: Bolivia, Colombia, France, Mexico.
- The following did not report any cases in 1963, whereas they had done so in 1962: Burma, Switzerland.

81. OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Seizures made during 1962 which were received too late for inclusion in the report for 1962:

Bolivia ..... 2 seizures = 6,730 g

(2) Seizure of small quantity not regarded as international traffic:

Mexico ..... 1 seizure = 9.4 g

(3) Graph showing trends in illicit traffic in cocaine from 1960 to 1963: (See Annex III)

* * *

C. CONCLUSIONS

82. A number of conclusions can be drawn from the foregoing. The illicit traffic is organized on an international scale and constitutes a grave threat to a great many countries in spite of the efforts made to end it.

83. The increasing importance of the seizures reported to the United Nations and to the International Criminal Police Organization, and the growing number of cocaine traffickers being arrested, prove the efficiency of the authorities entrusted with enforcement measures but show also that the situation created by the illicit traffic in cocaine is becoming constantly more alarming. There is a danger that this traffic, which at present is concentrated in certain areas of the world, may one day reach countries which have so far been spared.

84. If, notwithstanding the efforts of governments and the assistance of the competent international organizations, the illicit traffic in cocaine has continued to grow, it is because traffickers are finding it easier to obtain all the raw material they need.

85. World coca leaf production is enormous. As shown by the figures supplied by the Permanent Central Opium Board, very small quantities of this plant may possibly still have legitimate medical and scientific uses, but those needs could be met with the reserves indicated at the present meeting by the eminent representative of WHO. The bulk of the coca leaf produced is intended for mastication, while the remainder serves for the manufacture of cocaine. Clandestine laboratories are situated chiefly in the interior of the producing regions and in the neighbouring countries and, as already stated, these laboratories obtain the raw material which they require all the more easily since the control exercised over the coca leaf production is only of an approximate character. This shows the complexity of the problem. So long as millions of human beings chew coca leaves, the production of this plant cannot in fact be restricted to the extremely small quantities still required for medical and scientific uses, and the illicit traffic in cocaine will therefore continue to thrive. It is for this reason that great hopes can be placed on the forthcoming entry into force of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs which lays down a time limit of twenty-five years for the abolition of coca leaf chewing. Until then, however, the struggle against the illicit traffic in cocaine must be intensified and the governments must continuously strengthen the enforcement measures and co-operate among themselves more closely than they have done in the past.

86. Governments must also make full use of the assistance of the international organs and of the means made available to them by ICPO/Interpol: the campaign waged by the latter against international drug traffickers is one of its essential tasks and further its network of communications makes possible the speedy exchange of information. Lastly, it is to be hoped that governments will make every effort to apply the important resolutions adopted by the Rio de Janeiro Conferences of 1960 and 1961 and the Consultative Group on Coca Leaf Problems which met in 1962 at Lima.

87. It is only at the price of all these efforts that it will be possible to bring the illicit traffic in cocaine under control.

ANNEX I

INTER-AMERICAN MEETING ON THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN COCAINE AND COCA LEAVES
(Rio de Janeiro, 21-25 March 1960)

RESOLUTION N.1

The Delegations taking part in the Inter-American Meeting on the Illicit Traffic in Cocaine and Coca Leaves, held in the city of Rio de Janeiro from March 21 to 25,

CONSIDERING the advisability of bringing up to date and perfecting the legislation of their respective countries, with the object of achieving a more efficient control of the illicit traffic in crude and refined cocaine, coca leaves and other narcotics,

RECOMMEND:

1. That more stringent penitentiary sentences be imposed against illicit cocaine manufacturers, smugglers, distributors and traffickers, that stay of sentence not be admitted, and that a fine be imposed together with and without any reduction of the term of imprisonment;
2. That, in the cases aforesaid, no prisoner be released on bail;
3. That Judicial Courts be requested to expedite trials of persons charged with the offenses described above;
4. That, in order to curtail the international movements of cocaine traffickers, laws and regulations should be adopted whereby visas, seamen's papers and documents for airline crews be denied to those persons already convicted of narcotic law violations or strongly suspected of being engaged in such illicit activities;
5. That in the case of any person who has been deported after conviction of violation of the illicit cocaine trafficking laws, a note to this effect should be made in his passport;
6. That, where not already a part of the legislation of a particular state, measures be enacted to make it compulsory for a special medical prescription to be made out for the sale of narcotic drugs;

7. That a state monopoly be set up for the importation, sale and manufacture of narcotic drugs or, should this not be possible, and in accordance with the international legislation in force, that the following measures be adopted:

   (a) limitation of the number of ports through which narcotic drugs are allowed to be imported;

   (b) strict surveillance of the system of import and export licences for the international trade;

   (c) prohibition of the practice of sending narcotics through the mails;

8. That, in accordance with the legislation of each state, an attempt should be made to secure suspension of civil rights for habitual drug addicts, so long as they fail to rehabilitate themselves and discharge their debt to society, and thereby deprive them of control over their estate and person, with the understanding, however, that this and other measures should always be taken in such a way as not to interfere with the rehabilitation of the drug addict;

9. That, in their extradition treaties, the States include infractions of laws and regulations for the control of narcotics among the grounds for extradition; and that, in such treaties, these infractions be included amongst the cases in which detention awaiting trial (or on suspicion) may be envisaged.

INTER-AMERICAN MEETING ON THE ILLICIT
TRAFFIC IN COCAINE AND COCA LEAVES

RESOLUTION N.2

The Delegations taking part in the Inter-American Meeting on the Illicit Traffic in Cocaine and Coca Leaves, held in the city of Rio de Janeiro from March 21 to 25,

CONSIDERING that, notwithstanding the enforcement of existing legislation on control of the illicit traffic in crude and refined cocaine, coca leaves and other drugs, additional measures can be taken with even greater benefit to the populations of the Continent,

RECOMMEND:

1. That, wherever necessary, police, customs and excise services encharged with the responsibility of suppressing the illicit cocaine traffic be augmented at land, sea and air frontiers;
2. That, within the present framework of existing police, custom and excise administrations, there should be delegated to one special Section the responsibility of co-ordinating all matters pertaining to the suppression and repression of the illicit cocaine traffic;
3. That the authorities of those countries where the manufacture or refining of cocaine has been or still is legal, exercise strict surveillance over former employees who have had knowledge and/or experience with the technical processes involved in order to avert their application of this professional knowledge and experience to criminal ends.
4. That in effort to locate clandestine factories and laboratories engaged in the illicit conversion of coca leaves into crude or refined cocaine (cocaine paste or cocaine hydrochloride), surveillance be made of procurement of chemicals and chemical equipment for use in such conversion processes;
5. That in the States where the growing of coca leaves is illicit, and above all in remote, inaccessible areas thereof, programmes of detection be considered and studied with a view to the eradication of such plantations; and that, in the States where coca leaves can legally be grown, a cadastral survey be prepared carefully limiting the regions in which this is done;

6. That provisions be made in regulations of agencies encharged with the responsibility of repression and suppression of the illicit cocaine traffic, for the payment of rewards for information and assistance leading to the apprehension of illicit cocaine traffickers and the seizure of illicit cocaine supplies.

7. That efforts be made, within existing laws, to develop criminal conspiracy prosecutions against organized international groups engaged in the cocaine traffic.

8. That, to the extent permitted by legislation and rules of practice in the respective states, programmes be adopted for the training of police officers in the suppression and repression of the international illicit cocaine traffic, special courses being instituted, wherever possible, on the struggle against the illicit traffic in narcotics;

9. That measures tending to reduce the medical and scientific use of cocaine, and the manufacture thereof, be adopted, and that, at the same time, research be intensified with the object of discovering substitute drugs that are not habit-forming;

10. That measures be considered with a view to promoting the disappearance, as soon as possible, of the habit of chewing coca leaves;

11. That, whenever this seems advisable in a particular situation, intensive campaigns be undertaken, making use of all up-to-date means available therefor, to disseminate an understanding of the harmful effects of the use of narcotics;

12. That, as soon as possible, steps be taken to increase the number of beds available in each State for the clinical treatment of cocaine addicts;

13. That coca leaf and cocaine production and sale statistics be kept up to date, as recommended by the international control agencies.

INTER-AMERICAN MEETING ON THE ILLICIT
TRAFFIC IN COCAINE AND COCA LEAVES

RESOLUTION N.3

The Delegations taking part in the Inter-American Meeting on the Illicit Traffic in Cocaine and Coca Leaves, held in the city of Rio de Janeiro from March 21 to 25,

CONSIDERING the advisability of better co-ordination of the activities of the states and international agencies in the repression of the illicit traffic in crude and refined cocaine, coca leaves and other narcotics,

RECOGNIZING the impossibility of securing effective vigilance in a State, when not accompanied by and co-ordinated with the steps taken by other states, especially the neighbouring ones,

RECOMMEND:

1. That the States not yet belonging to the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL or I C P O), should become members of that organization;
2. That in those States not yet belonging to I C P O, a correspondent be assigned for the purpose of exchanging information relating to the international illicit traffic in cocaine; and that, as soon as feasible, the names of these correspondents be communicated to all the American States and to the Secretary-General of I C P O;
3. That, without detriment to the engagements arising out of bilateral and multilateral agreements on the subject, there may be a direct interchange of information between the American states in the course of enquiries into the illicit traffic in cocaine, whenever mutual interests are at stake; and regarding states which are members of INTERPOL, such an exchange should be made from one central national bureau of this Organization to another;
4. That the preventive measure be adopted of distributing to all American States and to the Secretary-General of I C P O:
   (a) lists of known or suspected illicit traffickers in cocaine, in accordance with the legislation of the corresponding state;
   (b) names and known or suspected movements of former employees of raw or refined cocaine manufacturers;

(c) lists of automobiles and other vehicle (including descriptions and registration licence plates) known or suspected of being engaged in activities connected with the international illicit cocaine traffic;

(d) lists of cocaine addicts or consumers;

5. That, upon the invitation of an American state, the United Nations or other American states may dispatch narcotic law enforcement specialists to supply technical assistance in connection with the joint development of an international illicit cocaine investigation, wherein a mutual interest is involved, for the purpose of bringing such investigation to a successful conclusion;

6. That, insofar as this may be permitted by the legislation of the corresponding countries, provisions be made among American States to permit police officers of one country to participate in the interrogation of illicit cocaine violators arrested in another country, for the purpose of identifying new traffickers and apprehending sources of supply;

7. That those American States which have police training programmes should afford the opportunity of police officers of other American states enjoying scholarships;

8. That periodical inter-American conferences should be held concerning the international illicit cocaine traffic;

9. That close co-operation should be established among the police of the various American states for the purpose of taking joint and efficient action against the clandestine traffickers in narcotic drugs;

10. That each State acquaint the others with the channels most often used for the illicit traffic in coca leaves and cocaine;

11. That in cases of the international illicit traffic in narcotics, each State should distribute to all the others, for dissemination, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions, a photograph and finger-print criminal identification card of every delinquent arrested or fugitive and communicating same to I C P O and other international agencies;

12. That, without detriment to international engagements already assumed, the American States exchange, regularly and with the least possible delay, specific legislation enacted in relation to the illicit traffic in cocaine and other narcotic drugs, together with the jurisprudence connected therewith.

INTER-AMERICAN MEETING ON THE ILLICIT
TRAFFIC IN COCAINE AND COCA LEAVES

RESOLUTION N.4

The Delegations taking part in the Inter-American Meeting on the Illicit Traffic in Cocaine and Coca Leaves, held in the city of Rio de Janeiro from March 21 to 25,

CONSIDERING that the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs thereof, in successive recommendations and resolutions during the period 1956 to 1959, has been proposing the adoption of measures relating to the supply of technical assistance by the United Nations to the countries that apply for same, in combating the illicit use of narcotics,

NOTING that the Fourteenth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations passed Resolution No. 1395 (XIV) whereby authorization was granted to include special allocations in the Budget of that International Organization for the execution, on a continuous basis, of a programme of technical assistance in the control of the illicit use of narcotics and in dealing with cognate problems,

TAKING ACCOUNT of the fact that the reports of the Delegations to this Meeting provide ample evidence of conditions existing in the American Continent characterized by a lack of equipment and means of surveillance to restrain the cultivation, trade and industrialization of coca leaves and the traffic in the illicit use of raw and refined cocaine,

RECOMMENDS:

1. That American States take full advantage of the opportunities of technical assistance offered by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international organizations, with a view to remedying the defects indicated, and in particular with regard to the following points:

   (a) Assistance to the national authorities of coca producing countries for the effective implementation of the international conventions and the internal laws and regulations dealing with the seeding, cultivation, manufacture and commerce of coca leaves and crude and refined cocaine;

   (b) Adoption of priority criteria to enable personnel specializing in combating the illicit international cocaine traffic to obtain study and training grants;

(c) Aid of technicians in order to draw up, in co-operation with the authorities of the countries concerned a co-ordinated regional programme for combating the international illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;

(d) Acquisition of fuller information about the medical and sanitarian measures applicable to the treatment of drug addicts.

2. That it be recommended to the World Health Organization that the technical assistance, financial allocation of each country concerned, a certain amount should be earmarked for use in connection with problems of narcotics.

3. That the purport of this recommendation be communicated to the Fifteenth Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, to be held this year, with particular emphasis on the wisdom of such applications for technical assistance in this field being made by American countries and granted in order to further the common interests of the continent.

ANNEX II

PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD

MANUFACTURE OF COCAINE*

Country (in alphabetical order)	Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Coca leaves utilized for the manufacture of				Crude cocaine			Cocaine manufactured	
		crude cocaine		cocaine		manufactured	utilized for the manufacture of cocaine			
		Kg.	Yield %	Kg.	Yield %	Kg.	Kg.	Yield %	Kg.	% of total col. 8
ARGENTINA	1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17 [a]	1.2
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	12		20 [b]	1.5
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
BELGIUM	1958	—	—	17 448	0.68	—	—	—	57	4
	1959	—	—	121		—	—	—	40	4.5
	1960	—	—	390		—	—	—	26	2
	1961	—	—	5 116		—	54		50	4.2
	1962	—	—	361		—	57		54	5
CHINA [c]	1958	925	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
	1959	1 500	0.7	—	—	11	—	—	—	—
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
FRANCE	1958	—	—	—	—	—	164	92.7	152	10.8
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	423	56.5	239	26.6
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	330	82.7	273	21.1
	1961	—	—	134		—	242		200	16.6
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	162		225	20.9
GERMANY: FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	1958	—	—	—	—	—	— [d]	—	71	5
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	101 [e]		102	7.9
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	50 [f]		99	8.2
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	41	75.6	31	2.9
ITALY	1958	—	—	—	—	—	17	76.5	13	0.9
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	16	81.3	13	1.4
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
JAPAN	1958	—	—	11 557		—	39		89	6.3
	1959	—	—	20 607		—	37		124	13.8
	1960	—	—	10 159		—	75		115	8.9
	1961	—	—	9 838		—	29		76	6.3
	1962	—	—	9 701	0.51	—	—		49	4.6
NETHERLANDS	1958	—	—	—	—	—	207 [g]		184	13
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	30	90	27	3
	1960	—	—	1		—	125		85	6.5
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	33	72.7	24	2
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	62	74.2	46	4.3

[a] Obtained from coca leaves processed prior to 1958.

[b] Partly obtained from coca leaves processed prior to 1958.

[c] Statistics incomplete.

[d] 57 kg. of ecgonine methyl ester were used in the manufacture of cocaine.

[e] In addition, 33 kg. of ecgonine methyl ester were used in the manufacture of cocaine.

[f] In addition, 60 kg. of ecgonine methyl ester were used in the manufacture of cocaine.

[g] In addition, 29 kg. of ecgonine were used in the manufacture of cocaine.

*See document E/OB/19

Country (in alphabetical order)	Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Coca leaves utilized for the manufacture of				Crude cocaine			Cocaine manufactured	
		crude cocaine		cocaine		manufactured	utilized for the manufacture of cocaine			
		Kg.	Yield %	Kg.	Yield %	Kg.	Kg.	Yield %	Kg.	% of total col 8
PERU	1958	25 075	0.62	—	—	155	—	—	—	—
	1959	66 133	0.68	—	—	449	—	—	—	—
	1960	98 952	0.7	—	—	690	—	—	—	—
	1961	97 950	0.61	—	—	600	—	—	—	—
	1962	61 008	0.49	—	—	296	—	—	—	—
PORTUGAL	1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19 [a]	1.4
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	16	50	—	—
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—		8 [b]	0.7
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	16	62.5	10	0.9
SPAIN	1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	6		—	—
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	1		1	0.1
SWITZERLAND	1958	—	—	904	0.33	—	—	—	3	0.2
	1959	—	—	58		—	—	—	—	—
	1960	—	—	183		—	—	—	—	—
	1961	—	—	200		—	—	—	—	—
	1962	—	—	1 475		—	—	—	—	—
UNITED KINGDOM	1958	—	—	53 091		—	1		289	20.5
	1959	—	—	17 763		—	25		71	7.9
	1960	—	—	10 069		—	177		125	9.7
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	62	52.6	18	1.5
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	132		84	7.8
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1958	—	—	121 185	0.43	—	—	—	519	36.7
	1959	—	—	152 798	0.25	—	—	—	384	42.8
	1960	—	—	154 560	0.36	—	—	—	549	42.4
	1961	—	—	166 853	0.44	—	—	—	727	60.5
	1962	—	—	140 507	0.41	—	—	—	575	53.5
TOTAL	1958	26 000	0.63	204 185		164	428		1 413	100
	1959	67 633	0.68	191 347		460	531		898	100
	1960	98 952	0.7	175 362		690	836		1 295	100
	1961	97 950	0.61	182 141		600	476		1 202	100
	1962	61 008	0.49	152 044		296	471		1 075	100

[a] Obtained from coca leaves processed in 1957.
[b] Obtained from crude cocaine processed in 1960.

COCAINE

IMPORTING COUNTRIES ↓	EXPORTING COUNTRIES: United Kingdom	France	United States of America	Federal Rep. of Germany	Netherlands	Switzerland	Other countries (each exporting less than 10 kg.)	TOTAL
	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.
United Kingdom			*110* 108		*6* 6			*116* 114
U.S.S.R.	*80* [b]			*27* [b]	*44* [b]			*80* 71
Netherlands		*57* 58					*5* 5	*62* 63
China [c]		[c] 54						[c] 54
Romania		*45* 45						*45* 45
Czechoslovakia		*27* 27						*27* 27
Canada	*26* 26							*26* 26
Pakistan				*26* 25				*26* 25
Yugoslavia					*26* [•] 24			*26* 24
Indonesia	*25* 25							*25* 25
India	*22* [•] 8			*3* 2				*25* 10
Australia	*21* 20			*1*				*22* 20
Poland		*6* 6		*7* 7				*13* 13
Switzerland				*3* 3	*9* 9			*12* 12
Colombia						*11* 11		*11* 11
Other countries (each importing less than 10 kg.)	*46* 53	*23* 28	*1* 3	*27* 37	*14* 17		*3* 4	*114* 142
TOTAL	*220* 132	*158* [c] 218	*111* 111	*67* 101	*55* 100	*11* 11	*8* 9	*630* [c] 682

[•] Discrepancy assumed to be due to the fact that quantities exported at the end of the year reach their destination only at the beginning of the following year.

[•] Belgium.

[b] This discrepancy is under investigation by the Board.

[c] Statistics incomplete.

PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD

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Annex II
page 3

PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD

COCA LEAVES: PRODUCTION, UTILIZATION AND EXPORT DECLARED BY PRODUCING COUNTRIES*

Country (in alphabetical order)	Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Production	Utilization for		Export to countries where the coca leaves are used for						Total of utilization and export (2 + 3 +
			the manufacture of cocaine	chewing	the manufacture of cocaine		chewing		Total (4 + 6)		
		Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	% of total col. 4	Kg.	% of total col. 6	Kg.	% of total col. 8	Kg.
BOLIVIA	1958	2 627 414 [a]	—	?	1	Negl.	132 604	100	132 605	47.3	?
	1959	2 124 212 [a]	—	?	—	—	20 704	100	20 704	10.9	?
	1960	3 638 000 [a]	—	?	—	—	142 538	100	142 538	55	?
	1961	2 975 488 [b]	—	2 783 609	—	—	191 879	100	191 879	51.3	2 975 488
	1962	3 090 397 [b]	—	2 932 922	12 672	9.4	144 803	100	157 475	56.4	3 090 397
CHINA [c]	1958	1 500	925 [d]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	925
	1959	—	1 500 [d]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 500
	1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
COLOMBIA	1958	120 000 [e]	—	29 000 [e]	—	—	—	—	—	—	29 000
	1959	100 000 [e]	—	28 000 [e]	—	—	—	—	—	—	28 000
	1960	105 000 [e]	—	26 000 [e]	—	—	—	—	—	—	26 000
	1961	95 000 [e]	—	24 000	—	—	—	—	—	—	24 000
	1962	98 000 [e]	—	23 000 [e]	—	—	—	—	—	—	23 000
INDONESIA	1958	8 067	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1959	150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1960	700	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1961	1 400	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1962	835	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PERU	1958	9 378 795	25 075 [d]	?	147 650	99.9	—	—	147 650	52.7	?
	1959	9 026 975	66 133 [d]	?	169 493	100	—	—	169 493	89.1	?
	1960	9 003 274	98 952 [d]	?	116 657	100	—	—	116 657	45	?
	1961	8 753 576	97 950 [d]	?	182 412	100	—	—	182 412	48.7	?
	1962	8 020 136 [f]	61 008 [d]	7 837 347 [g]	121 781	90.6	—	—	121 781	43.6	8 020 136
TOTAL	1958	12 135 776 [h]	26 000	?	147 651	100	132 604	100	280 255	100	?
	1959	11 251 337 [h]	67 633	?	169 493	100	20 704	100	190 197	100	?
	1960	12 746 974 [h]	98 952	?	116 657	100	142 538	100	259 195	100	?
	1961	11 825 464 [h]	97 950	?	182 412	100	191 879	100	374 291	100	?
	1962	11 209 368 [h]	61 008	10 793 269	134 453	100	144 803	100	279 256	100	11 133 53

[a] Produced in the Department of La Paz.
[b] Produced in the Departments of La Paz and Cochabamba.
[c] Statistics incomplete.
[d] Used for the manufacture of crude cocaine.
[e] Estimate.
[f] According to the Peruvian authorities, this figure has been calculated on the basis of the taxes collected on the leaves.
[g] According to the Peruvian authorities, this figure has been calculated by deducting from the quantities which were produced the amount which were exported and used for the manufacture of crude cocaine.
[h] Incomplete.

*See document E/OB/19

COCA LEAVES

IMPORTING COUNTRIES ↓	EXPORTING COUNTRIES			TOTAL
	Bolivia	**Peru**	Other countries [a] (each exporting less than 1000 kg.)	
	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.
Argentina	*78 200* [b] 140 247			*78 200* 140 247
United States of America		*127 227* * 119 281		*127 227* 119 281
Federal Republic of Germany	*2 457* * 12 672			*2 457* 12 672
Peru	4 358 [b]			4 358
Switzerland		*1 500* 1 500		*1 500* 1 500
Italy		1 000 *		1 000
Other countries (each importing less than 1000 kg.)	198 [b]	*300* *	*113* 118	*413* 316
TOTAL	*80 657* 157 475	*129 027* 121 781	*113* 118	*209 797* 279 374

* Discrepancy assumed to be due to the fact that quantities exported at the end of the year reach their destination only at the beginning of the following year.

[a] France.

[b] See paragraphs 56 and 133-137 of the Report.

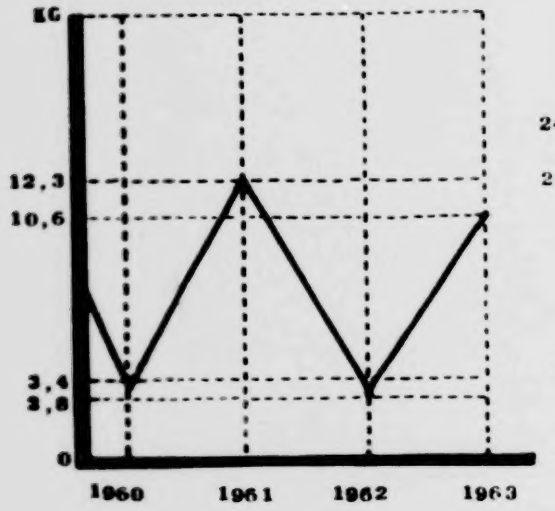
ANNEX III

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION

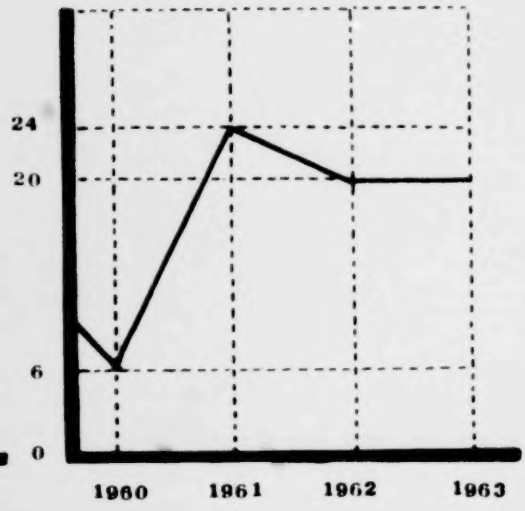
(Trends in illicit traffic)

COCAINE

QUANTITIES SEIZED



NUMBER OF SEIZURES



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INTER-AMERICAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP
ON COCA LEAF PROBLEMS

La Paz, 16 - 20 October 1964

SOME SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM OF COCAISM 1/

by

MARCEL GRANIER-DOYEUX .

(Member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Addiction-Producing Drugs)

1/ The appended document by Prof. Marcel Granier-Doyeux was originally presented to the Consultative Group on Coca Leaf Problems which met at Lima from 26 November to 7 December 1962, and has been published in the Bulletin on Narcotics, Vol XIV, No. 4. It will represent a valuable contribution to this meeting also and it is therefore distributed to participants.

SOME SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM OF COCAISM

THE PROBLEM

Although "cocaism" means the habit of chewing coca leaves, the problem with which we are dealing should not be considered in isolation : it must be regarded as the result of a number of factors, the most important of which are ethnic, economic and social. The living conditions to which these factors give rise affect mainly, though not exclusively, the indigenous and half-breed elements of the population of the coca-producing countries.

The regeneration of the mass of the indigenous peoples of America has been the subject of a deep concern which goes back to the fairly distant past. Many measures have been suggested in an endeavour to rescue the unhappy indigenous masses from the state of cultural backwardness and perpetual poverty which characterizes the really sub-human conditions in which they lead their miserable lives. Experts in education and in health, sociologists, scientific investigators, ethnologists, priests, moralists, etc., have all tried to bring about the assimilation of these millions of human beings into the normal life of civilized peoples and to transform them into active members of society taking part in the economic development of the nations to which they belong.

It is unnecessary to go over the history of this vice, nor is it proposed to revive the bitter controversy between those who defend the "sacred leaf" and those who advocate a campaign against the inveterate habit of chewing coca. All the material necessary for a full understanding of the problem will be found in a number of previous issues of the Bulletin on Narcotics[1/], in the official Report of the United Nations Commission of Enquiry on the Coca Leaf[2/] and in many other publications. The essential fact is that the coca leaf contains an active constituent in the form of an alkaloid - namely, cocaine. According to existing scientific knowledge, the physiological effects produced by coca leaf chewing can be explained only by the

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1/ Vol. I, No.1; Vol.II, No.1; Vol.II, No.4; Vol. IV, No.2; Vol.IV, No.3; Vol. V, No.4; Vol.XIII, No.1; Vol.XIII, No.4; Vol.XIV, No.1.

2/ Report of the Commission of Enquiry on the Coca Leaf (see bibliography).

action of this alkaloid, the extraction of which is facilitated by the use of alkaline substances and which is unquestionably absorbed into the organism of the coca chewer ("coquero" or "coqueador").

Those who defend coca claim that cocaism is entirely different from cocainism, and that it cannot be regarded as a real instance of drug addiction, since the effects it produces are not covered by the definition given by the Expert Committee on Drugs liable to produce Addiction - viz.:

"Drug addiction is a state of periodic or chronic intoxication, detrimental to the individual and to society, produced by the repeated consumption of a drug (natural or synthetic). Its characteristics include (1) an overpowering desire or need (compulsion) to continue taking the drug and to obtain it by any means; (2) a tendency to increase the dose; (3) a psychic (psychological) and sometimes a physical dependence on the effects of the drug." (World Health Organization, Technical Report Series, No.21)

Before becoming a member of the Commission of Enquiry on the Coca Leaf appointed by the United Nations in 1949, I had taken a great interest, since 1938, in the problems arising from the use and abuse of addiction-producing drugs. Contrary to the views expressed by certain critics of that Commission's report, we were far from being ignorant or unaware of the coca problem. For this reason, I consider myself qualified to say that, while in many cases cocaism does not constitute true drug addiction, it is nevertheless a vice which, in the case of certain individuals - and they are by no means few in number - can take on all the characteristics of drug addiction as defined by the Expert Committee of the World Health Organization. Moreover, whether or not it constitutes genuine drug addiction, it is impossible to deny the harmful effects of coca chewing. The deadening of the feeling of hunger is one aspect which, by establishing a vicious circle, aggravates the well-known malnutrition of the coca chewer. The absorption of cocaine, the active constituent of coca, causes well-established changes in the intellectual faculties of the person chronically intoxicated by it. Output of work is undoubtedly affected, because the alleged "stimulating effect" is nothing more than a state of abnormal excitation. Such lack of productivity has harmful effects on the economy. Nor can it be claimed in favour of coca that it has nutritive value like other plants, since it is hardly wise to make use of a foodstuff which, in addition to its nutritive content,

incorporates a substance which is unquestionably toxic - namely, cocaine. I sincerely believe that coca chewing can in no circumstances be regarded as a substitute for a proper diet.

Again, there is no good reason for supposing that cocaine acts in a different way on persons living at high altitudes or produces a different effect upon them. The fact is that the inhabitant of the Andean region is fully acclimatized to life at such great altitudes, and his organism functions strictly in accordance with the laws of physiology established by science. Despite the strenuous efforts made by the supporters of coca, it has never yet been proved scientifically that coca chewing is a useful factor, still less a necessary one, in acclimatization to life at high altitudes. The best example that can be given is that of the very large number of people not born on the high plateaux who have fully acclimatized themselves to life in that region without needing to have recourse to coca leaf chewing.

As I have already pointed out, we are dealing with a complex phenomenon which is the result of a number of adverse influences, mainly of a sociological and economic nature. A solution for the problem should therefore be sought in improving the living conditions of the inhabitants and by putting an end to this most undesirable state of affairs. Cocaism is a harmful habit which can be stopped provided, and only provided, that the circumstances and the other factors which give rise to it undergo a real change. Nevertheless, in the light of the social and economic factors governing the problem, a radical and immediate suppression of coca cultivation, and therefore of cocaism, is out of the question. Too much haste in introducing measures to eliminate it would aggravate the present situation instead of providing a solution. It is extremely important to bear in mind the disastrous consequences brought about by measures of prohibition that are carried out from the start in too drastic a manner. I still believe, as we stated in the report drawn up by myself and the other members of the United Nations Commission of Enquiry, that suppression must be gradual - that is, by "a process which, while taking into account the complexity of the problem, should not be so long as to permit the harmful continuation of the habit nor so short as to damage the economic interests involved."

As Mario A. Puga rightly says, "The link between the coca habit and the problem of the Indian as a whole is so close that they are one and the same, just as the Indian problem is linked to the social problems of our peoples. Addiction has flourished and continues to flourish before the very eyes of the ruling bureaucracy

and the dominant families, thanks to an inhuman social system and to an ignoble custom of earning profits at the expense of the nation's life and future."

Carlos Gutiérrez Noriega, Vicente Zapata Ortiz and their numerous and able followers, so violently attacked by supporters of coca, have summed up the problem in the following words: "Whereas in our country (Peru) much money and effort are devoted to the solution of other problems, not the smallest attention has been paid to the coca problem"[3/]. In short, cocaism is not acknowledged to be a problem that affects our national well being. It should not be forgotten that over two million people are addicted to this habit (in Peru)." They very properly go on to give it as their considered opinion that "production of, and trade in, coca should be restricted and an active propaganda campaign should be waged against its use."

As is generally known, the spread of the habit of chewing coca leaves goes back to the earliest years of the conquest, the immediate and logical consequence of which was the multiplication of plantations. This spread had the following causes, among others:

(a) Trade in coca was one of the most lucrative forms of business during the colonial era;

(b) It was during that period that the marked decrease in the production of foodstuffs took place, so that the coca-chewing habit became indispensable as a means to assuage the pangs of hunger;

(c) Forced labour in the mines also made coca an essential commodity, since coca leaf chewing produces an illusion of physical strength and banishes fatigue.

This custom continued during the republican era; so serious and so complex is the problem to which it gives rise that it was finally brought before the United Nations, the supreme international body. The United Nations decided to appoint a commission, which embarked on a study of this problem.

As this article is confined to the sociological aspects of the question, it has been divided into the following sections:

- The geographical distribution of the zones in which the coca leaf is produced and in which it is chewed
- The environment

3/ These words were written in 1946.

- The human element involved in coca-chewing
- Housing conditions under which coca chewers live
- Nutrition
- Living and working conditions
- Education
- Health conditions
- Economic factors
- General conclusions

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE ZONES IN WHICH THE COCA LEAF IS PRODUCED AND IN WHICH IT IS CHEWED

Coca can be grown in tropical and sub-tropical regions. It accordingly does very well in various parts of Central and South America, the West Indies, Australia, Indonesia, India and Africa.

At the present time, chewing takes place mainly in the republics of Bolivia and Peru, but there are also coca-chewing regions in other countries, although they are of much less importance. To facilitate the account, each of these countries will be considered in alphabetical order.

(1) ARGENTINA. It has been mentioned that coca chewing occurs in some areas in the north of the country (provinces of Salta and Tucumán; perhaps in that of Jujuy also). Here, the persons addicted to it are reported to be Bolivian agricultural labourers. In fact, Argentina cannot be regarded as a country that produces coca leaf, and cocaism is not really a problem there.

According to statistics prepared by the Permanent Central Opium Board, the quantity of leaf consumed in recent years was as follows (in tons):

1954,	129	1956,	14	1958,	80	1960,	86
1955,	135	1957,	152	1959,	115		

One feature that cannot be ignored is the illicit traffic. This is of particular importance in connexion with cocaine addiction, but it is not without interest, though to a lesser degree, where cocaism is concerned. In 1960, the Under-Secretary of the Argentine Ministry of Social Welfare and Public Health, Mr. Andrés Martínez Marchetti, reported that coca leaf was brought in clandestinely from Bolivia in three ways:

(a) By persons who cross the frontier daily through inhabited areas and conceal the contraband in their clothing; this is called "ant smuggling";

(b) By persons using forms of transport such as the railway, cars, lorries, etc., the coca leaf in this case being carried in the luggage or among the freight;

(c) By persons who cross the frontier in uninhabited areas, and are thus able to avoid official controls. The same writer observed that, in 1955, the maximum quantity of coca leaf smuggled in was 34 tons. The minimum figure recorded was 2 tons, but fluctuations are extremely wide.

(2) BOLIVIA. This country is, after Peru, one of the main producers of coca leaves. According to information obtained by the United Nations Commission, the chief producing zones are:

Departments	Provinces	Per cent of total population
La Paz	Sud Yungas Nor Yungas Inquisivi Caupolicán Murillo Muñecas	89
Cochabamba ..	Chaparé Carrasco Arani Quillacollo Cliza	10
Santa Cruz ..	Cercado Sara Valle Grande	1

(Note: Some was apparently produced from time to time in the Departments of Tarija and Beni).

The map in figure I shows the main coca growing zones in Bolivia. It was drawn up in 1949 by the United Nations Commission of Enquiry on the Coca Leaf.

The names of those departments where the coca leaf is chewed are underlined, while the shading indicates the approximate areas in which coca leaf plantations are located.

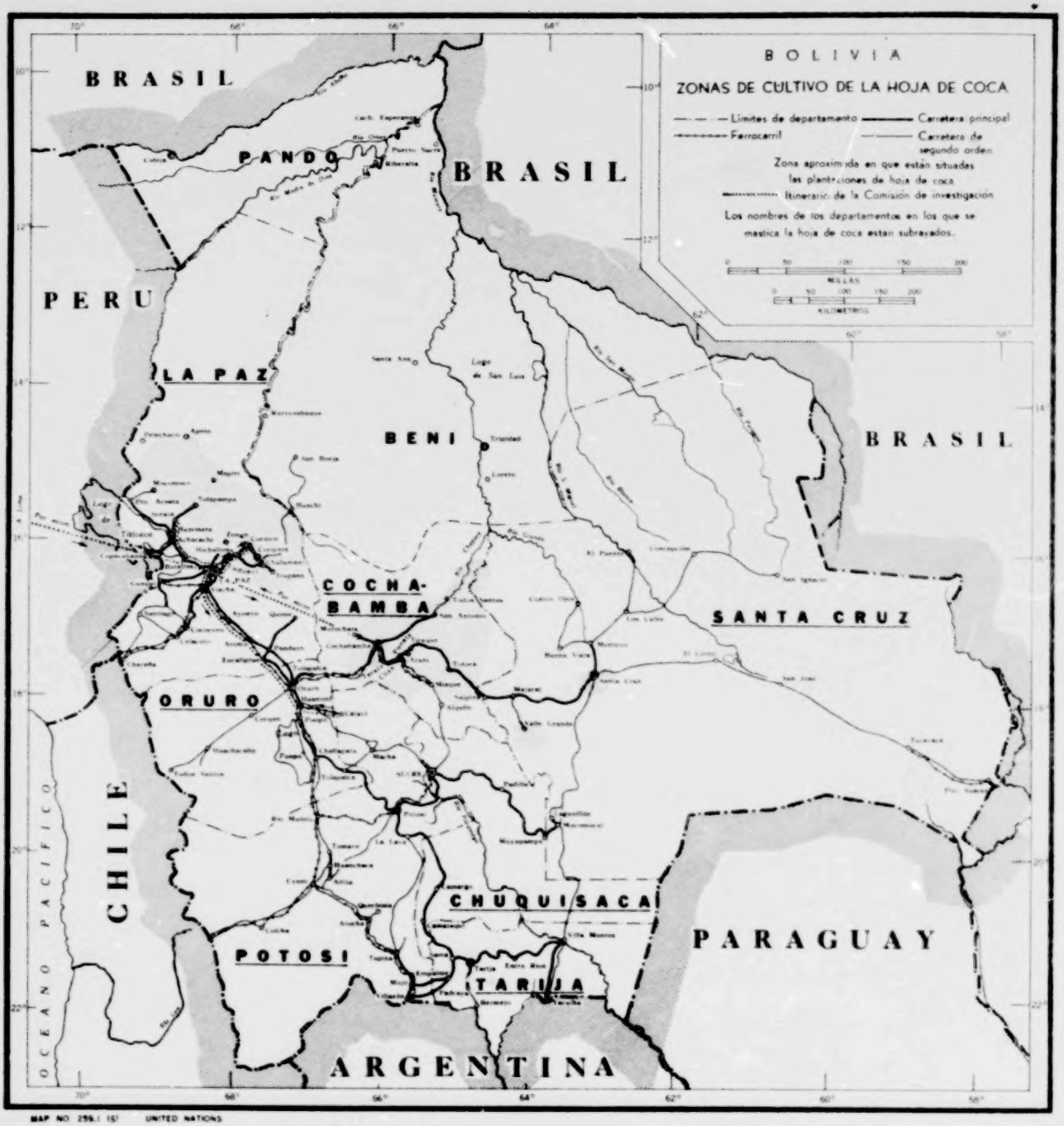

Figure I
Coca leaf growing areas in Bolivia

The Commission encountered one of its most serious obstacles when it attempted to establish precisely the coca growing and chewing areas and the quantity of coca leaf produced annually, for at that time there was still no reliable system of registration. There was no way of obtaining accurate statistical data, either about the number of hectares under cultivation or about annual production. The figures obtained from different sources varied considerably, and usually did not tally. The most accurate were the figures for that part of the output which came on the market after payment of the official tax. Although from purely arithmetical points of view these figures were accurate, they referred only to that proportion of the coca leaf production that had passed through the hands of the excise authorities; they do not represent the quantity actually produced.

Let us take some of these figures as an example. In 1938, according to the Government of Bolivia's reply to the United Nations questionnaire (E/CN.7/110), the production of coca leaf amounted to 7.125.900 kg. in the department of La Paz, and 209.760 kg in the department of Cochabamba. If the smaller amounts produced in other areas are added to this, a total annual production of 7.336.000 kg is indicated.

In 1939, total production (that could be checked) was very similar - 7.850.000 kg.

On the other hand, in the period between that date and the present time, production has been decreasing. It remained at an average of about 4.565.000 kg up to the year 1949/50; in 1954, it dropped to 2.764.000 kg, and in 1957 to 2.590.000 kg. At the session held in Geneva in 1959, the Bolivia observer, Mr. Enrique Gerardia, said that, during the year 1958, his government had taken a series of measures to reduce in some considerable measure the use of coca leaf for chewing (see document E/3254).

There can be no doubt that the Bolivian Government is firmly determined to continue its efforts until total suppression has been achieved. Up to now, it has acted circumspectly and gradually, and has thus made a valuable contribution to the international campaign against this harmful habit.

(3) BRAZIL. It has been stated that coca chewing occurs in certain areas of the Amazonian region (along the Purús and Amazon rivers). The habit of eating these leaves in the form of a powder (ipadú) has also been reported.

The Government, acting through the National Commission for Control of Narcotic Drugs, is on the alert and keeps a continuous watch on all reports reaching it about coca consumption. Thus, for example, Dr. Eleyson Cardoso, a former Federal Commissioner of Public Health, was able to establish that chewing existed in the Amazon region, along the whole length of the Juparana river. Nevertheless, however that may be, there is no real problem of cocaism in Brazil.

(4) CHILE. Here the problem involves merely a small group of Bolivian labourers who for the most part work in the mining areas fairly close to the frontier between Chile and Bolivia. To all intents and purposes, the problem of cocaism does not arise in Chile.

(5) COLOMBIA. This country is a particularly interesting example, because it shows the excellent results that can be obtained by the introduction of restrictive measures that have been well thought out in advance and take account of local peculiarities.

Although in Colombia the problem was never so serious as in Bolivia and Peru, this country may be regarded as occupying the third place in respect of coca leaf production and consumption. Another fact worth noting is that, in addition to the traditional method used for coca leaf consumption - a method which is common to all Andean countries - another "technique" is also employed in Colombia. This has been well described by R.E. Schultes; it is used in the Amazonian region of the country, and in essence consists of roasting and pulverizing the leaves. To obtain an alcalizer, the resultant powder is mixed with the finely sifted ash of the leaves of one of the various species of Cecropia or Pourouma (P.Cecropiaefolia Mart.). In 1952, the same writer came across another method used by the Tanimukas near the Igarapé Peritomé. The "refinement" of this method consists in using the resin of Protium Heptaphyllum March. By using this technique, which is extremely complicated, it is possible to change the taste of the powdered coca leaves, but its effects remain the same.

In 1952, Professor Jorge Bejarano published in the Bulletin an excellent article entitled "Further considerations on the coca habit in Colombia".[4/] In the course of it, the writer lists the departments where coca is grown and the quantity of leaf produced. The information provided by him may be summarized as follows :

4/ Bulletin on Narcotics, Vol. IV, No.3.

Departments	Hectares under cultivation	Number of trees	Production in kg
Cauca	387	30.425	103.560
Huila	480	110.100	83.200
Santander	-	129.000	-
Boyaca	-	2.500	200
Total	767	277.025	186.960

These figures are lower than those reported in previous years by the Colombian Government. In answering the questionnaire, it gave the following figures :

Year	Annual Production (in kg)
1942	380.000
1945	210.000

As will be seen, there was thus a significant decrease in production. This is even more noticeable in more recent statistics:

Year	Annual Production (in tons)
1954	180
1955	180
1956	150
1957	140
1958	120
1959	100
1960	100

In a much more recent publication (1961) Bejarano gives further particulars which are of very great interest.

(6) ECUADOR. There is a considerable historical evidence for the existence of coca leaf chewing in this country. Nevertheless, despite the fact that no entirely satisfactory explanation is available, at the present time there is no cocaism problem in Ecuador. The only indication of it is that, in the province of Azuay, the practice of chewing occurs on a very small scale.

(7) PERU. This country unquestionably takes the first place as a producer and consumer of coca leaves. A further undoubted fact is the effort made in recent years to try to bring about a gradual restriction both of production and consumption. It is very difficult, however, to come to any definite conclusion about the results achieved by this strenuous campaign.

The main difficulties are the following :

(a) Until the investigation by the United Nations Commission of Enquiry on the Coca Leaf, statistical data referred to coca "in circulation" on which tax had been paid;

(b) A very large quantity of leaves was intended for chewing, but had not been "placed in circulation", an expression meaning that it had not paid tax, and therefore was not included in the statistics;

(c) As in the case of Bolivia, already mentioned, there was no reliable register in Peru.

The map in figure II shows the main coca leaf growing areas and the places or regions where it is chewed.

By various methods, the United Nations Commission came to the conclusion that the average annual production of coca leaf in Peru was 7.000 tons. According to information published by the Peruvian Coca Monopoly in its memorandum "Ten Years of the Coca Monopoly in Peru"[5], annual production in Peru was as follows :

Year	Kilogrammes	Year	Kilogrammes
1949	7.616.035.671	1955	10.238.515.707
1950	8.075.103.074	1956	9.625.229.253
1951	8.640.807.315	1957	10.012.835.110
1952	10.092.933.337	1958	9.378.795.215
1953	9.127.637.438	1959	9.206.360.362
1954	9.943.512.921	1960	9.003.274.921 [6]

5/ Bulletin on Narcotics, Vol. XIV, No. 1.

6/ See Memoria del Estanco de la Coca, 1960.

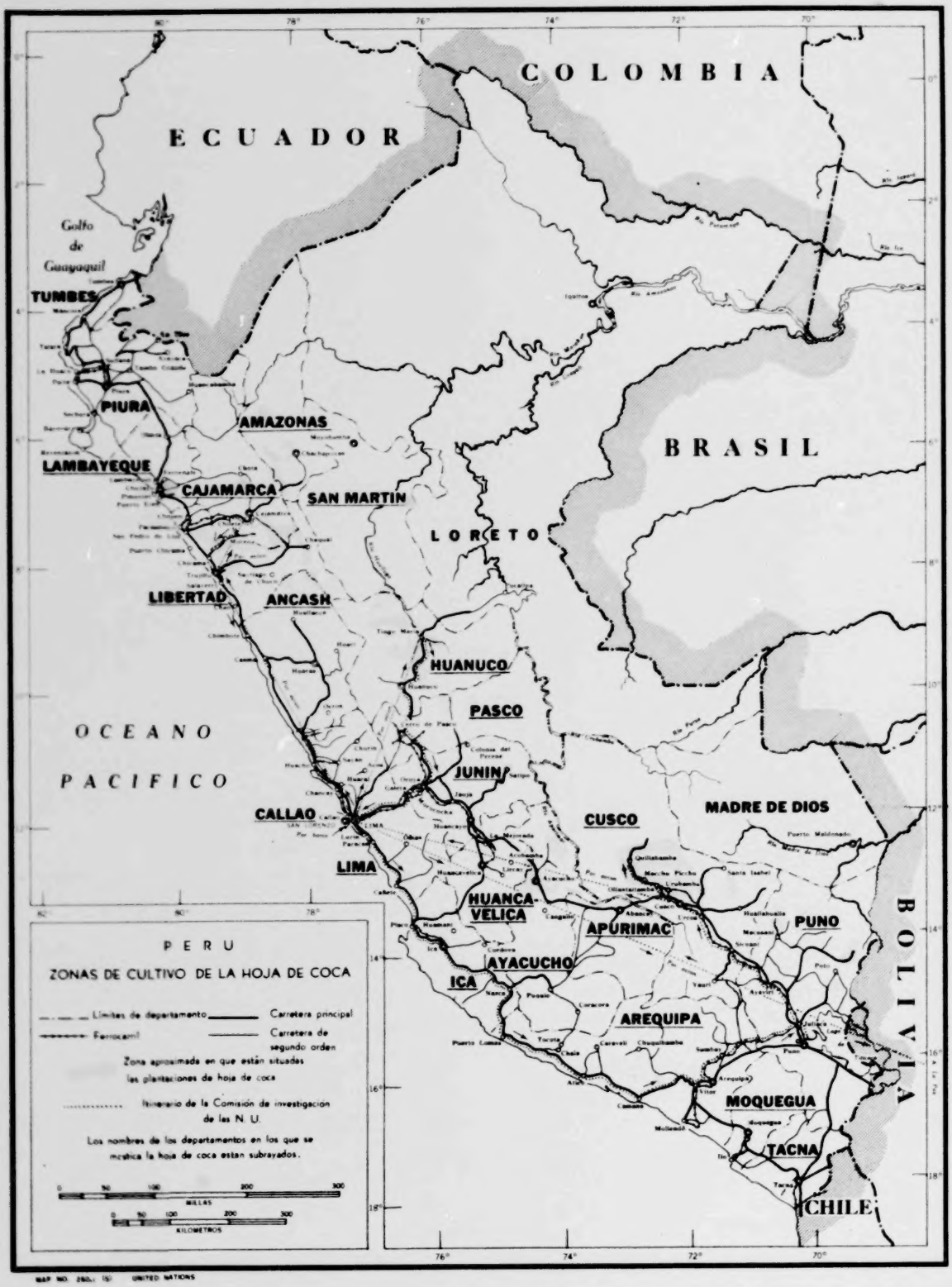

Figure II
Coca leaf growing areas in Peru
(Report op. cit.)

In 1958 the Peruvian representative to the session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Geneva, Mr. Cesar Gordillo Zulette, said that production of coca leaves had fallen to 9.377.830 kg. He also said that in that year no new licences for coca cultivation had been granted.

The following statistics about the quantity of coca leaves for chewing appear in Permanent Central Opium Board document E/OB/17.

Year	Kilogrammes
1954	9.250.000
1955	9.319.000
1956	9.450.000
1957	9.954.000
1958	9.203.000
1959	8.789.000
1960	8.793.000

Notwithstanding this, Peru continues to be the main producer of coca leaf.

(8) VENEZUELA. Small groups of coca chewers have been found in certain parts of this country, near the Colombian frontier, but the information obtained does not lead to the conclusion that there is a real cocaism problem in Venezuela.

The ENVIRONMENT

It will be clear from the preceding section that the problem of cocaism is particularly serious in the republics of Peru, Bolivia and Colombia. It is, however, much less so in the last-mentioned instance; moreover, there are some fairly striking differences between Colombia and the two first countries so far as the "coca chewing environment" is concerned.

In the case of Bolivia and Peru, chewing takes place chiefly on the Altiplano (high plateau) or Puna (tableland). At these high altitudes living conditions are very harsh; the land is flat and without vegetation, food is scarce, and for a great part of the year these regions are swept by icy winds. The interminable stony plains, without a single tree, and the intense cold make these regions far from hospitable.

The environment may be classified in three separate regions, as was done by the United Nations Commission :

(1) Regions where very large quantities of coca leaves are produced and consumed;

(2) Regions of little or no production, but high consumption;

(3) Regions in which there is little or no production or consumption.

An instance of the first category is the Department of Cuzco (Peru), the largest producer of coca leaves, and one of the largest consumers. Another example is the Department of La Paz, which is divided into two regions, the Altiplano and the Yungas, the latter being semi-tropical.

The second category is exemplified by the Department of Puno (Peru); although this is one of the largest consumer regions, production does not play an important role in the economy. Another instance is Pasco, also in Peru. This is a very important mining centre; its mean altitude is 3.400 metres. The capital, Cerro de Pasco, is more than 4.000 metres above sea level. Its climate is intensely severe and cold, and snow lies almost permanently. There is no production there, but consumption is extremely high. A very similar case is that of the Department of Oruro, Bolivia, which is essentially a mining region. As an instance of the third category, there is Tingo María, in Peru, where there is some production of coca leaves, but almost no consumption. In Cochabamba (Bolivia), which is at an altitude intermediately between the high plateau and the low-lying regions, and has a good climate, and where conditions are favourable for agriculture, there is some production but little consumption.

In Colombia, as Jorge Bejarano has pointed out, the environmental conditions are not the same. Climate and ethnic factors are less harsh but food deficiencies exist. The campaign against cocaism has achieved very encouraging results in the Department of Huila, but in that of Cauca results have so far been negligible.

THE HUMAN ELEMENT

The difference between the various ethnic groups constituting the population of the coca countries is of particular interest, and requires a specific reference. There are three groups, which are ordinarily designated as follows : (1) Indians; (2) mestizos (half-breeds); and (3) whites.

The second Inter-American Indigenist Congress (1949) defined the Indians as the descendants of the pre-Colombian peoples having a common social consciousness, based on their work, their language and their traditions, though all of this may

have undergone modifications. Almost all the coca leaf chewing population belongs to this racial group, but this does not mean that all Indians are chewers, though the great majority are. Chewing is practised by some mestizos, although to a much smaller extent. The very few whites who chew coca leaf must be regarded as isolated cases. Nevertheless, this classification by races is from our point of view a relative term and can only be accepted in certain cases. In our opinion, what is much more important is to examine the social and economic conditions of the Indian population. It is indeed saddening to have to recognize with Mario A. Puga that, "of the 30 million Indians belonging to the aboriginal peoples who still survive, four-fifths live in a state of misery, social oblivion and utter hopelessness. Only a tiny minority are ordinary citizens and active members of the community, playing their part in work and production. Between these two extremes there are several million metizos, who are Indian in their social habits and economic circumstances or by cultural affinity in language and traditions, and live at a level very near to that of the Indian masses."

In the case of Bolivia and Peru, the indigenous population consists essentially of two main ethnic groups, the Aymarás and the Quichuas. While there are certain differences between these two groups, they also exhibit common characteristics, particularly so far as the social and economic conditions under which they live are concerned. The chewing habit is to be found mainly among the rural population (farmers), miners, shepherds, factory workers, porters, etc.; thus the vast majority belong to the proletariat. Even women and children may become coca chewers in some regions and many provinces of the high plateau. With regard to Colombia, Jorge Bejarano noted that, while conditions there are not the same as in Bolivia and Peru, there is one factor that they all have in common - namely, nutritional deficiency, which is much worse in areas where chewing is practised. In Colombia, too, it is among the indigeneous peoples that the chewing habit occurs.

In the present state of knowledge of the subject, it has not been possible to support the hypothesis that the natives of the high plateau belong to a race subject to special physiological laws; nor are there sufficient reasons for believing that cocaine (the active constituent of the coca leaf) has a different effect on them. Again, it has not been scientifically proved that coca can play a useful part in acclimatizing man to high altitudes.

There can be no question that the chewing habit has harmful effects on the social reactions of those who have acquired it and makes it difficult for them to live together with other members of the community.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

The decisive role of housing in human affairs has been conclusively proved. Wretched and insanitary housing conditions do untold harm from the social point of view and from the point of view of hygiene. Among the worst of the evils afflicting the helpless indigenous peoples in vast areas of America are their miserable, primitive hovels, which are no more advanced than those of their remote ancestors. Far from constituting a welcome place of refuge which might play its part in developing the personality of those dwelling there, the Indian's repulsive hut can inspire in him only aversion and despair.

The building material generally used is beaten earth. Floors are usually of earth. Roofs are almost always made of dry twigs or sometimes of zinc sheets. Usually, there are no doors or windows; access to the hut is by one or two openings, which are closed with pieces of hide or matting. There is no chimney. Furniture is practically non-existent; people living in these houses generally sleep on hides and sit on the ground.

The shape of these dwellings varies. At Puno, for example, on the shores of Lake Titicaca, they are almost always rectangular. Behind the village of Uncia, we noted some dwellings in the shape of a round tower.

These houses often have only one room, and are not divided up by any partitions or walls. Despite the severe climatic conditions, there is no heating; fire is used only for cooking food. Generally speaking, wood is not available and the commonest fuel is the dried dung of the llama or vicuña. Electric or gas lighting is practically unknown in almost any of these rudimentary dwellings; even primitive illumination by candle-light is too much of a luxury.

The housing conditions of the poorer classes in the towns are not much better, particularly in the suburbs where the Indians live. Even in Lima, the capital of Peru, the problem of housing the working classes is a serious one and has moreover become still worse as a result of the great influx of Indians into urban centres. At La Paz, Bolivia, such people are increasingly relegated to the steep slopes of the mountains.

Shortcomings in housing conditions are not confined to the Indian population, but also affect the mestizos. The latter generally live in old and dilapidated houses, in the worst possible sanitary conditions.

The importance of undertaking a decisive campaign to improve housing conditions can never be sufficiently stressed. It is indispensable for that reason that action should be taken quickly and that every possible effort should be made to cope with one of the most serious problems affecting many human beings living in the New World.

NUTRITION

It is a universally acknowledged and accepted fact that the diet of the Indian throughout the American continent is insufficient and inadequate. Innumerable studies of this important problem have been published; they can all be summed up in Gabriel Garcés' view that "the diet of the Indian of this continent is insufficient and wholly inadequate to compensate for the energy he expends in his daily work." Moreover, the problem is even more acute in the case of coca chewers. As Gutiérrez Noriega said, "Inadequate nutrition leads to coca chewing and this in turn by destroying appetite, leads to inadequate nutrition and thus sets up a vicious circle."

At high altitudes, quinua (Chenopodium quinua), beans and potatoes are grown. These form the main articles of diet of the Indian of the high plateau. Over vast areas neither vegetables nor fruit trees are to be seen. Consumption of milk and meat is practically non-existent. As a result of transport improvement, bananas and other fruit are to be seen in some markets.

The general impression which an observer obtains is that practically the whole population is definitely undernourished.

Reference should be made here to Gutiérrez Noriega's view. "As a result," he says, "there is a significant relationship between the degree of cocaism and the extent of the nutritional deficiency. Even in the same coca area, it is evident that the poorest and worst fed peoples are those who consume more coca, whereas more prosperous peoples, living in regions where agriculture is more profitable, consume much less."

Frederic Verzár goes even further : "We have no hesitation in concluding that, if there was an improvement in the nutrition of the indigenous inhabitants, the dangerous coca chewing habit would disappear."

LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS

The living conditions of the high-plateau Indian are unquestionably miserable, both from the social and hygienic point of view; his standard of living is without a doubt one of the lowest there is. When this aspect of the problem is considered from the angle with which we are dealing - namely from the point of view of cocaism - great care is required in any attempt to establish a relationship between cause and effect. The fact is that cocaism must not be regarded as the cause but as the result of the wretched social and hygienic conditions characteristic of the Indian's life; on the other hand, it must always be borne in mind that the coca habit, once established, plays its part in rendering adverse living conditions still worse and thus completes the vicious circle.

Theoretically, the eight-hour day is legally in force in the coca-producing countries.

Among the miners, the eight-hour day is fairly widespread. Nevertheless, in the case of underground workers, among whom the proportion of coca chewers is high (about 90%), work is interrupted at least twice a day. Fewer interruptions take place among surface workers, the reason being that there is a lower proportion of coca chewers (20-25 % or less) among them.

The legal working day is far from being strictly enforced among agricultural labourers, and one can indeed see for oneself that there is a considerable degree of irregularity in its observance. I myself was able to establish that one typical timetable is as follows : 7 a.m., work begins; 9 a.m., first rest period, which may last from 30 to 45 minutes. After this first rest period work is resumed until about 11.30 a.m., at which point the second rest period begins and lasts at least an hour and a half. At 1 p.m. work starts again and lasts until 3 p.m., when the third rest period begins, again lasting from 30 to 45 minutes. At the end of this, the last stage of the working day begins and lasts until 5 p.m.

The reason for the prolonged rest periods is the time required for selecting the leaves, preparing the bolus, adding the alkaline substance, and finally chewing. If, in addition to all this, the characteristic slowness of the Indian's movements is borne in mind, some idea will be obtained of the uneconomic use of time in relation to actual work performed. A somewhat similar situation exists among factory workers.

While it is impossible to go into this very important matter at greater length, it is nevertheless essential to evaluate capacity for work. It is generally accepted that the working capacity of the coca chewer is limited; this has been proved in the mines, in the fields and in the factories. Furthermore, we were able to establish that work of a responsible nature is not entrusted to coca chewers.

I remember how repeatedly we were told that the Indian's need for coca could be eliminated by energetic joint action consisting basically of (1) better wages; (2) a better diet; (3) education; (4) better health conditions; and (5) better working conditions. (With regard to the last point, it is usually recommended that, in the case of the peasant, there should be a properly planned agrarian reform; and, in the case of the miner and industrial worker, that the labour laws should be improved.)

EDUCATION

One of the most important of the problems that have always been present in Latin America is unquestionably that of illiteracy. The effect of a proper upbringing and education is a factor of major importance in the improvement of living conditions as a whole, in hygiene and, in general, in the social development of any group of human beings.

The various aspects of the problem of education become still more accentuated in countries with a large proportion of indigenous inhabitants. Factors such as the multiplicity of languages or dialects, age-old superstitions, the many different races, the harsh physical environment and the scarcity of adequate means of communication and transport very greatly complicate the arduous task of spreading education.

There can be no doubt that the efforts that have been made, particularly in the last few years, have led to an appreciable improvement. The struggle has been a stern one, and there is still a long road to be trodden.

The shortcomings that still exist in teaching, education and culture are all-important and take on a very special significance in connexion with the persistence of the problem of cocaism.

In numerous publications, Gutiérrez Noriega and his school have drawn attention to the serious difficulties that cocaism creates in connexion with education. As an example, the following view may be quoted : "These difficulties begin in the home; parents who chew coca are not interested in sending their children to school and even force them to acquire the habit of this drug. The majority of the teachers in rural

schools in Cuzco and Puno have told us that children with the coca habit have a very limited capacity for learning or are not interested in being educated. They add that such children are very shy, introverted, lacking in will power, and with little inclination to play... The Salesian Fathers at the Salcedo Farm also told us that they found it particularly difficult to teach children who had had the coca habit or whose fathers were coca chewers."

There is a connexion between cocaism and illiteracy; a statistical study shows that the percentage of illiterates is closely related to the quantity of coca leaves consumed.

The following figures, recorded by Gutiérrez Noriega in 1948, are sufficiently eloquent:

Region	Quantity consumed (in tons)	Percentage of illiterates
South Andean region	4.500	84
North Andean region	2.000-2.500	60-70
Coast and "montaña" */	much less	10-50

*/ Forest or semi-forest country.

In spite of all that has just been stated, it would be incorrect to say that illiteracy and lack of education are the sole causes of cocaism; there are undoubtedly other factors, many of which have already been referred to. On the other hand, it is also very important to bear in mind the determinative influence of cocaism as a factor aggravating the problem of illiteracy.

HEALTH CONDITIONS

Some of these have been referred to in earlier paragraphs, but there are others which require special mention.

Great though the efforts made in recent years to improve education in Latin America have been, it might well be said that perhaps even greater efforts have been made in connexion with the campaign for better hygiene, whether it is regarded as "the art of living in the full enjoyment of health", or as "the care of health" (Gesundheitspflege); but this is a discussion that might lead us beyond the limits

I have allotted myself. It is very difficult to define with absolute accuracy and precision what is meant by "health". In 1946, it was declared in the Constitution of the World Health Organization that "health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease"; in 1957, however, a group of experts belonging to that organization said that ideas on health and life are as vague as the idea of well-being. All this tends to explain the difficulty encountered in any effort to estimate or evaluate the state of health of a given country or region. Despite the difficulties referred to, there are methods and techniques which, if properly applied, can produce information of appreciable value.

It is a fact, and a deplorable fact, that Latin America has undoubtedly been backward in matters relating to hygiene. As Jorge Bejarano so well put it, "the word 'atraso' (backwardness), by its very bluntness, gives us an over-all impression that the country has remained behind when compared with others; that, in short, it is 'en retardo' (late)." He goes on to say that "our peoples need frankness and clarity in order to ensure that the impulse toward progress does not become dormant or paralysed".

Fortunately, Latin America has awakened to the facts and, in a gesture that does it honour, is casting aside the narrow prejudice which makes it impossible to acknowledge the existence of age-old shortcomings. Groups of conscientious health experts, fully aware of the seriousness of national and regional problems, are now examining and reviewing procedures, adjusting the aims of policy, rectifying shortcomings and are, in a word, organizing the campaign for better health. The elimination of the backwardness already referred to; the improvement of health conditions simultaneously with economic and social conditions; the reduction of the death rate, both general and specific, for the various age groups; the eradication of endemic diseases; the control of infectious diseases; prevention instead of cure - such are the main tasks entrusted to the health experts in these countries.

With regard to the methods used, reference should be made to the suggestions by Arnaldo Gabaldón : "Activities specifically connected with health should be made the subject of co-ordinated effort divided into two sectors, each with the same standing; one of these would deal with the medical care of man while the other, specializing in hygiene, would operate in the environment."

In the particular case of the coca countries, it can be shown that, generally speaking, there is an adequate supply of skilled doctors in the urban centres; but in the rural areas and in the regions far from the urban centres, it is very difficult to carry out successfully the two phases of the health campaign on the lines suggested by Arnoldo Gabaldón. The efforts made by the coca countries, especially in recent years, are worthy of high praise, but there is still a long way to go. It is imperative that every possible help should be given to these countries to enable them to make up for lost time. In any anti-cocaism programme, the health campaign must always occupy a prominent place. Furthermore, the public health offices, sanitary units and rural dispensaries should act as centres for spreading knowledge about the harmful effects of cocaism and thus play their part in a strenuous propaganda campaign.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

In 1951, Mario A. Puga described the whole tragedy of cocaism in the following words : "It must be realized that the vested interests which encourage this habit have enormous political power based on their monopoly of the land. The grower owns large estates in the inter-Andean region and in the valleys on the verges of the Amazon forest. The peasant labourers on the coca plantations are absolute slaves. In exchange for an insignificant plot some 50 yards wide and 100 yards long for each family, the vegetables produced on which are at their disposal, the peasants must work free one week a month for the feudal overlord. When they are so engaged, they receive in lieu of salary a ration of 'llipta' or 'tokra' and one pound of coca leaves a day. When working as peons they receive a daily wage of 20 Peruvian centavos, rising to 80 centavos in exceptional cases; these amounts are equivalent respectively to 10 and 40 Mexican centavos, or 3 and 12 United States cents. In addition, the peasant's family work as 'pongos' in the master's house. The pongo is a non-manumitted serf; it is a feudal institution that survives from colonial days. He is employed on domestic tasks in the estate owner's house, without payment other than food and space on the ground to sleep. Indian boys become pongos at the age of seven, and remain so until they are adult, at which point they become peons.

The United Nations Commission was able to establish that cocaism produces harmful social and economic effects, both collectively and individually. The problem becomes much more serious when the very large number of coca leaf chewers is borne in mind.

From the economic point of view the coca-chewer has a diminished general capacity for labour and displays no aptitude for specialized work requiring greater concentration or skill; he is incapable of assuming responsibility, does not possess the mental lucidity needed for certain types of work, and is more prone to industrial accidents. If to these drawbacks we add the harm done to the health of the worker and his children, some idea will be obtained of the economic damage caused by cocaism.

But there is another most important economic aspect of the matter, and that is the role of coca growing in the national economies of the producing countries. Very careful attention must be paid to this point whenever plans are made for the introduction of measures to suppress it. A very large number of people derive their incomes from growing and selling coca leaves. Many owners of large estates have invested a considerable amount of capital in the areas where it is grown; large numbers of small land-owners, tenants (arrendires, arrenderos, mejoreros, yanaconas, etc.,), sub-tenants (allegados) and peons earn their living from the same source. Furthermore, the treasuries of the countries concerned levy taxes which form an important contribution to revenue. Contrary to what many people had thought, the fiscal policy of raising taxes on coca has caused neither production nor consumption to decrease. It is reasonable to suppose that, far from solving the problem, sudden and total suppression would on the contrary create a dangerous lack of balance. For this reason the conclusion has been reached that, however desirable suppression might be, it should take place gradually and pari passu with the replacing of coca cultivation by other crops that would not be injurious and would at the same time contribute to national wealth and a better diet. Such replacement is not utopian; it is feasible and desirable from every point of view. The governments concerned should realize that the production of coca is a typical example of monoculture, with all the shortcomings and drawbacks that this implies. The fact is that coca growing benefits only a very small sector of society while doing harm to the greater part of the population. As has been stated earlier, the period of time during which its replacement should take place should be established after a very careful consideration of the numerous factors involved. Owing to the extreme complexity of the problem, the process "should not be so long as to permit the harmful continuation of the habit, nor so short as to damage the economic interest involved".

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The habit of chewing coca leaves (cocaism) is one that affects several million inhabitants of the New World.
2. It is a habit that is harmful to the person practising it; in many cases it is also harmful to the community.
3. The coca leaf contains a statistically significant proportion of toxic alkaloids, especially cocaine, its active constituent, the toxicity of which has been amply proved.
4. Even supposing that the coca leaf contains natural nutritive principles, its use as food cannot be justified owing to its high cocaine content. Moreover, the supposed nutritive properties of this plant are practically insignificant when compared with the properties of other natural products that could be grown in the same areas as those in which coca is produced.
5. The deadening of the feeling of hunger that coca produces leads to a permanent condition of under-nourishment and thus establishes a vicious circle.
6. Physical, physiological and mental alterations produced by the abuse of coca in people who chew it prevent them from attaining a higher social level.
7. The coca habit contributes to decreased economic output of work, perpetuates a very low economic level of living and is thus anti-economic.
8. It has not been possible either now or in the past to find any scientific proof of the fallacy that coca leaf chewing is necessary, or even useful, for adaptation to life at high altitudes.
9. The assertion that the indigenous peoples of the high Andean plateaux "respond differently" to the action and effects of coca has also not been proved scientifically.
10. The problem of cocaism is not an isolated phenomenon. It is the result of a series of unfavourable social, economic, cultural and hygienic factors.
11. In any campaign against cocaism - the ancient vice of the New World - it is necessary to take into account the need for better social conditions and for the improvement and wider dissemination of education. The raising of the standards of physical and moral health must be encouraged, nutrition must be improved, hygienic housing provided and the economic level raised. There must

be a fight against superstition and mistaken beliefs; working conditions must be improved; and intensive propaganda must be carried on in order to eradicate once and for all this injurious habit.

12. It is essential that the governments of the countries concerned should make a joint inquiry into the most useful reforms that could be made in legislation and in the criminal law. It is not enough to promulgate laws, decrees or regulations restricting or prohibiting coca growing; it is absolutely necessary that severe punishment should be meted out to offenders. If complete success is to be achieved, a joint policy must be carried out by all the countries concerned.

The Inter-American Conference on the Illicit Traffic in Coca Leaf and Cocaine, held at Rio de Janeiro from 21-25 March 1960, made a series of recommendations in this connexion. At the meeting of the Inter-American Consultative Group on Narcotics Control, also held at Rio de Janeiro from 27 November to 7 December 1961, the problem of coca leaf chewing was considered and a resolution was adopted in which the United Nations was invited to consider favourably requests of the governments concerned for technical assistance in organizing a seminar for the exchange of experience among the competent officials of the countries interested in the coca leaf problem; such a seminar would be most helpful in adopting the most effective approach towards the solution of this question. It is to be hoped that this regional seminar on coca leaf chewing will be held as soon as possible within the special programme for technical assistance in narcotics control set up under General Assembly resolution 1395 (XIV), in view of the great advantages it will afford to the countries concerned with this problem.

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INTER-AMERICAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP
ON COCA LEAF PROBLEMS

La Paz, 16 - 26 November 1964

STATES IN THE REGION PARTIES TO THE NARCOTICS TREATIES

SYMBOLS * - agreement in force x - States having signed without reservation as to acceptance or deposited instrument of ratification, accession or acceptance, and territories in respect of which the treaties are deemed to apply. xa - States having declared themselves bound by the agreement, the application of which had previously been extended to their territory. s - Signature subject to ratification or acceptance. r - Reservation and/or declaration. xx - Non-self-governing territory to which the treaties marked are applied.	* Protocol of 11 December 1946	* International Opium Convention of 23 January 1912	* International Opium Convention of 19 February 1925 as amended	* International Opium Convention of 19 February 1925	* Convention of 13 July 1931 as amended	* Convention of 13 July 1931	* Convention of 26 June 1936 as amended	* Convention of 26 June 1936	* Protocol of 19 November 1948	* Protocol of 23 June 1953	Single Convention, 1961
Argentine	x	x	x	x	x	x			s	x	xr
Bolivia	x	x	x	xr					s		
Brazil	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Chile	x	x	x	x	x	x			s	x	s
Colombia	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	s		
Ecuador	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x
Paraguay	s	x		x		x			s		s
Peru	s	x				x			s		x
Uruguay	s	x		x		x			s		
Venezuela	s	x		x		x			s	s	s

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COCA LEAF, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND NARCOTICS CONTROL

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COCA LEAF, PUBLIC HEALTH, and NARCOTICS CONTROL

Excellent surveys of the medical and social effects of the habitual chewing of coca leaves are available. This paper will not add to their number. It is rather intended to show how the three parts of its title are interrelated, though such a clarification may seem to be no longer necessary since the Coca Enquiry Commission's clear statements, more than ten years ago.

That Commission's report, while stating the harmful effects of coca leaf chewing and recommending measures for its gradual suppression, said also that "it does not at present appear that the chewing of the coca leaf can be regarded as a drug addiction in the medical sense". This latter statement has occasionally given rise to certain misinterpretations. In order to understand it properly one will remember that in making it the Coca Enquiry Commission referred to the definition of drug addiction as formulated by the World Health Organization's Expert Committee on Addiction-Producing Drugs for the first time in 1950.

Today the term "drug addiction" must be understood in a broader sense than twelve years ago and, what is even more important, not as a narrowly circumscribed medical entity, viewing the individual only, but should also be seen in the light of the social implications, whether they are the causes or the effects of the chronic use of certain drugs. It is not easy to say what has contributed more to this change in the meaning of the term "drug addiction", whether it is the profound changes in structure and life of society and its attitude towards psychically active drugs, or the remarkable variety of addicting substances widely available today, the latter factor being in any case easier to understand. At the time of the first formulation of the "addiction" definition opium and opiates represented by far the largest and most widely misused group of drugs. Hence the definition visualized first and foremost these substances, all of which produce the well defined syndrome of physical dependence as a consequence of abrupt cessation (withdrawal) of their chronic administration. Thus, "physical dependence", which is easier to measure than other medical features mentioned in the definition, was considered a convenient and practical yardstick for the assessment of addictive qualities of a drug.

Meanwhile, many new types of drugs with interesting psychic effects have appeared, mostly as achievements of chemical synthesis, such as sedatives and hypnotics of barbiturate and other types, and stimulants of amphetamine type. Many of them are indeed capable of effects - on the individual as well as on society - which classify them as addiction-producing even if they do not fulfil the criterion of physical dependence. The Expert Committee and the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs have recognized their dangers and recommended measures against their abuse. For the purpose of protecting society, they formulated such recommendations when the consequences of their misuse became evident.

In order to adjust the guide lines for its proper action to the changed aspects of narcotics control, the Expert Committee stated in its tenth report[1/] that "the primary criterion for the establishment and degree of control is liability to abuse, resulting in risk to the community". Consequently, pharmacological criteria such as physical dependence should not be considered as the sole and obligatory requirement for narcotics control. In the light of this new interpretation of the term drug addiction, the WHO Expert Committee's statement[2/] regarding the harmfulness of coca chewing cannot but be confirmed. The United Nations narcotics control organs have, in resolutions as well as treaty texts, supported this view.

When assessing the role of coca leaf chewing as a factor in lowering the standard of health it should be remembered that the constitution of the World Health Organization defines health as a "state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". The constitution goes on to declare, "The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition". "The health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security and is dependent upon the fullest co-operation of individuals and States." The development of the Organization's programme has proved the usefulness of this broad concept of health and a good health policy is now considered vital for economic development.

1/ Wld Hlth Org. techn. Rep. Ser. 1960, 188, 10

2/ Wld Hlth Org. techn. Rep. Ser. 1952, 57, 10

The report of the Coca Enquiry Commission has made it abundantly clear - and more data collected since could be quoted in support - that the habit of chewing coca leaves is "connected with the extremely low standard of living of the Indian". The Commission's further statement that after a change of the general living conditions and improvement of nutritional conditions the habit tends to disappear has been confirmed in several instances.[3-4/]

As to the various factors connected with coca leaf chewing, perhaps most is known in regard to nutrition. The Enquiry Commission emphasized the need for improving the nutritional status of the coca chewing population as conditio sine qua non. During the decade since, thorough investigations have been made possible through international co-operation in many areas of Latin America with the purpose of analysing the nature of food deficiencies and supplementing them by suitable means. Thus, a meticulous survey of the living conditions of 1200 families has shown that both the variety of foodstuffs in coastal areas and the monotonous vegetarianism of the sierra are characterized by a marked preponderance of carbohydrates and very low content in protein and fat.[5/] The availability of fish flour as a cheap source of animal proteins might open new possibilities of improving the diet, and adequate food has, amongst other factors, indeed been shown to reduce the consumption of coca leaves for chewing purposes.

Coca leaves should not only be subjected to control measures because of their consumption as such (cocaism), but also as the raw material for cocaine. There can be little doubt that such control is essential for the prevention of the abuse of and addiction to cocaine (cocainism). It is also commonly held that control of agriculturally produced, often very bulky, raw materials such as the poppy plant or opium, and coca bush or leaf, presents still greater problems than the control of a well-defined substance such as morphine and cocaine. Many believe that, from the viewpoint of the efficiency of control, it would even be better to be, for legitimate

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3/ Wolff, P. O. (1949) Brit. J. Addict. 46, 66

4/ Verzar, F. (1955) Voeding, 16, 461

5/ Eddy, Halbach & Braenden, Bull. Wld Hlth Org. 1957, 17, 569

medical purposes, not dependent on substances manufactured from agricultural products, provided, of course, that the not agriculturally produced medicaments, i.e. drugs of purely synthetic origin, are at least as good. In the field of opium and its alkaloids this has been achieved. A large number of synthetic analgesics are available meeting all therapeutic needs.6/ Similarly it has been possible in many cases to replace cocaine, which at first was the only local anaesthetic, by a number of therapeutically valuable substances of synthetic origin, a trend which is reflected in the world statistics of cocaine consumption. It is not unthinkable that further progress in the synthesis of local anaesthetics will bring to light some day a substance which can replace cocaine for all medicinal purposes and is free from adverse effects, in particular that of addiction, which necessitates narcotics control measures.

6/ Ann. Facult. Med. 1960, 43, 287 (La Alimentacion y el estado de nutricion en el Peru)